Volume XIX, Issue No. 68 FRIDAY MARCH 20, 2009 www.saipantribune.com 5()¢





OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Should the NMC board reconsider and reinstate Agnes McPhetres as a regent?

Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Baby Boom

More babies were born in the United States in 2007 than any other year in the nation's history.

NATION...Page 22

Guilty Plea

Josef Fritzl abruptly pleaded guilty to all of the charges against him, saying his change of heart came after hearing his daughter's testi-

WORLD...Page 24



Richardson, 45

Natasha Richardson died Wednesday at age 45 after suffering a head injury during a beginners' ski

LIFE & STYLE...Page 27

People speak out for, against federalization's delay. PAGE 2 Ex-PSS chief Borja to be Kumoi's running mate. PAGE 6

3 arson cases in over a month

Building under renovation in Tanapag set on fire

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

building under renovation in Tanapag was intentionally burned last week, bringing to three the number of arson cases on Saipan in over a month.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Lei Ogumoro said vesterday that a two-story building located north of Saipan Ice Co. was deliberately set on fire. No one was reported injured.

Ogumoro said that on Saturday at 3:34am DPS received a report of a fire in Tanapag. Firefighters immediately responded to the area.

The DPS spokesperson did not say why the report See 3 ARSON on Page 4

Kilili, Hispanic Caucus push Obama on immigration

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Rep. Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan and the other 23 members of the Congres-



Sablan

sional Hispanic Caucus with President Barack Obama at the White House yesterday to obtain the President's recommitment to address the

wide range of issues surrounding national immigration policy.

Sablan quoted Obama as saying See KILILI on Page 4

BAKA TO OAG LAWYERS:

'Amend contracts or be terminated'

By KRISTI EATON

kristi eaton@saipantribune.com

Acting Attorney General Gregory Baka



Baka

has notified the assistant attorneys

general and special assistant attorneys general they could be terminated without cause if they do not agree to amended contracts.

The contracts of See AMEND on Page 4



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO Cherlyn Cabrera, a counselor from Marianas High School, addresses the over 200 students during yesterday's "Start Smart Senior Seminar" sponsored by Northern Marianas College at the Saipan World Resort in Susupe. See Page 16.

Asiana's Saipan-Korea flights post \$10M loss in FY'08

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Asiana Airlines posted a loss of \$10 million on its Saipan-Korea flights in Fiscal Year 2008—a staggering 100-percent **RELATED NEWS**

NMI faces \$65M economic impact in 2009. PAGE 13

jump over the carrier's previous loss of some \$5 million.

Saipan general manager Kwang Joong Kim admitted that Asiana Airlines is "bleeding deeply" because of the impact of the global economic crisis and the struggling won.

See ASIANA'S on Page 4



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2 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

People speak out for and against federalization's delay

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Politicians, business groups, labor groups and other community leaders have long made known their stand on federalization, but the voices of the

common people have yet to be heard. They are the lowly public servants, the housewives, the iobless ones, the foreign workers who earn minimum wage and others who are always underrepresented in matters like employment and immigration,

we can live in harmony in such a beautiful place.'

-Reina Temol, 31, housewife, Palauan

"Federalization should start on June 1 to get it over with. With that, we could

focus on the things we need to do. We already know it's going to be done whether

we like it now or later. The most important thing now is for our local officials to

help their people get settled into the new system. It's kind of useless always whin-

ing about it. Once federalization sets in, we will progress as a whole, not only as

Palauans, Filipinos, Chamorros, Carolinians... We should come together so that

be they Chamorro, Chinese, Filipino or Palauan.

Many of them want a June 1 start of transition to a federal immigration system, while others support a 180-day delay as requested by the CNMI govern-

ing delayed. Why? So that the CNMI can be more

mind see-

don't

prepared for the federal takeover. As of now, the CNMI is still in the dark about it. Even the government is in the dark about it.'

-Romeo N. Herman, 43, accountant technician, **Pohnpeian**



"For me it's okay to have it on June 1 because now, people here are having difficult time. I think we need the federal government so that the local people can have work."

-Norman R. Angui, architectural technician, Chamorro

"No more delay. If it's delayed, many people will leave; I will leave. Business here is very slow.'

-Franco Wu, 30, hair stylist, Chinese





"It should be implemented as scheduled on June 1, so that we can all move on. No more delay tactics.'

-Silvano P. Tataro, 47, mechanic, **Filipino**





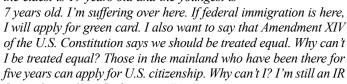
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"I want it June 1. If federalization comes later, it would be too hard for me. My family is in the U.S. mainland and I can't join them there because I'm not allowed to get a job there. I can only stay there for six months then I have to leave again. When federalization comes, I can fix my papers and I can work there [U.S. mainland] so I can be with my six children the eldest is 19 years old and the youngest is



[immediate relative] of a citizen." -Ansar Ali, 50, taxi driver, Bangladeshi



"Yes I want it delayed but I don't think what I say will make a difference. I've been hearing people saying federalization will make it harder to find a job, and it will be different from what it is now.'

-Jerry Saures, 20, jobless, Chamorro

Continued on Next Page



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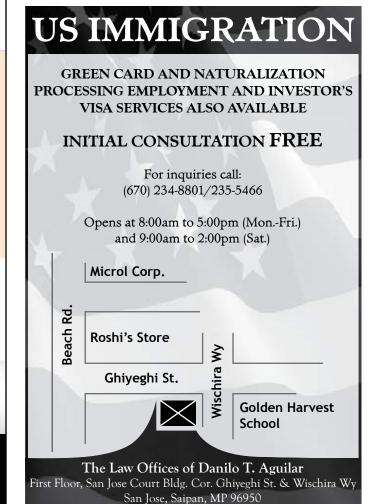
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"No to any delay. I've been here for 21 years. Local immigration law has been given a chance for so many years. But still, selfgovernment is not good. Why also not give a chance to skilled foreign workers to have a better status? They will still be needed in the CNMI. Besides, it's the federal government, not the local government, that would give them a status.

-Bernie Tarrobal, 46, hair stylist, **Filipino**

"I want June 1 because I want to know very soon what will happen to me. Maybe I will get a green card (with the help of an English translator)."

-Li Bolong, 49, vegetable peddler, Chinese



"I want it delayed so people will have more time to adapt, to get their papers ready, and to get used to the idea of federalization. People will also have more chance to be informed about federalization and its effects to them."

-Damiana Kaipat, 52, retired nurse, Chamorro



"I don't know if I will benefit from federalization. But I think it should not be delayed. I am not hoping for anything but I want to see if it will really help people. So it should be June 1."

-Tarum K. Mondal, 36, iobless (with temporary work authorization), Bangladeshi

"I hope it will be delayed because I still don't know what will happen to me. I've been hearing things that once federalization starts, foreign workers will be sent home. I'm not vet ready to go home.'

> -Leonida Mangasis, 50, waitress, Filipino



"I really don't care but it's good to happen anyway?'

housewife, Palauan



"It should be June 1. The sooner [we know what will happen], the better for us, right? I want to know what will happen to workers.'

-Ayu Kade Karmini, 31, masseuse, Indonesian



"I want it on June 1 so that we'll know soon what the U.S. decides. But I hope foreign workers like me will not be sent home just like that.

-Noel Estella, electrician, Filipino



have it June 1 and not delayed by 180 days. That's so we can get it over with. Why delay when it's going to

-Mahensia Mengloi, 58,

"I want June 1 because federalization will bring change. Good change. Maybe I can get a U.S. passport."

–Lee Chu Ja, 50, businesswoman, Korean

"I want federalization on June 1, so I know what will happen to us. That's all. I just want to know; same as many people here."

—Yang Yang, 29, masseuse, Chinese











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Meeting to focus on stimulus law's impact on HR matters

Francis Santos, the consulting associate administrator for StayWell Insurance, will be the featured speaker at the March membership meeting of the Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter on March 26.

Santos will be presenting important information on the newly enacted requirements under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, COBRA. COBRA provides workers, who have lost or changed employment, the right to continue the group health benefits provided by their former employer's group health plan for themselves and their family for a limited period of time and under

certain circumstances.

The recent American Recovery Reinvestment Act, the so-called stimulus law, includes significant changes that employers must implement immediately and includes retroactive notifications back to Sept. 1, 2008. These changes to heath care benefits under COBRA, in-

cluding federal subsidies for continued health care coverage, will be discussed at the SHRM meeting, along with other important facets of COBRA.

The Chapter meeting will be held at Charley's Cabaret, Pacific Islands Club Saipan on Thursday, March 26, 2009. Doors open at 11:15am for registration. The cost for members is \$20 and \$30 for non-SHRM members (government

purchase orders accepted). Cost includes lunch and materials.

Reservations are requested. Individuals interested in attending this meeting should contact the following individuals: Marlene C. Cruz at marlenecruz@hotmail.com. Or by calling 483-4647; Vicky Hall at vickyhall1055@hotmail.com, or Michelle Guerrero at m.guerrero@pticom.com. (*PR*)

3 ARSON

From Page 1

was released to the media only yesterday

Quoting fire investigators, Ogumoro said the southern portion of the building sustained the most damage.

The southern portion of the second floor, with its flooring made of wood,

was gobbled up by the blaze and eventually collapsed.

The DPS spokesperson said the exterior of the building was intact but smoke and fire damage could be seen on the concrete wall and metal roof.

"Based on preliminary investigation, when firefighters got to the scene, more than half of the building was engulfed in flames from the south portion extending more than halfway to the northern portion of the building," Ogumoro said.

Firefighters fully extinguished the blaze at 7am that day.

Ogumoro said the building's owner.

Ogumoro said the building's owner, a 46-year-old Korean, stated that the structure was under renovation.

"This case is pending further investigation. Investigators have, however, classified this case as arson-related," she said

The NMI Crime Stoppers Program is offering up to \$1,000 reward to anyone who can provide information about the person or persons who burned down the building.

Last Feb. 5, an unoccupied house in Afetnas was reportedly intentionally set on fire by an unidentified person or persons. No one was injured in that incident.

Last Feb. 16, an abandoned house

in Kagman III Phase 1 was also reportedly set on fire by unidentified person or persons. No one was also hurt in that blaze.

Investigators discovered that an electrical drop line that should have been connected from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s telephone pole to the house's electrical meter was not there.

As of yesterday, no one was arrested yet in the three reported arson cases.

ASIANA'S

From Page 1

Kim said Asiana incurred about \$5 million losses in FY2007. Some years before that, the official said that "millions" of losses were already recorded.

"We're not making a profit here [in the CNMI]. We already lost millions of dollars. We sacrificed a lot. However, we have the commitment to fulfill and we're intending to continue it," Kim said.

Beginning March 29, Asiana will suspend its four daytime flights between Seoul and Saipan until June 30.

But, Kim said, there's no reason for the CNMI government and its people to worry because the decision was made after considering that the three-month period—April, May, and June—is the lowest season for Korean travelers.

He said the peak season for Korean travelers starts in July.

"It's never our intent to stop it. The schedule is temporary because it's the

lowest season of demands from Seoul. Come July, we will reintroduce the same service," he said.

Kim conceded the low value of the Korean won was also a factor in the decision. From the previous months' exchange rate of 900 won to a dollar, the South Korean currency dropped to almost 1,500 to a dollar.

"It's too high for some Korean travelers," Kim said.

He said that Kumho Group, the parent company of Asiana, has al-

ready made a huge investment in the CNMI—the Laolao Golf Resort being the latest—which he described as clear indication that the company will remain on the island.

Asiana started doing business on Saipan in 1992.

At present, the company has 16 regular daily flights to the CNMI—11 from Incheon, two from Busan, and three from Osaka. Asiana is the only international airline serving the Saipan-Korea route.

Kim considers Incheon their biggest

market and that flights from the city may increase once demand grows in the future.

Kim also cited the "full support" being extended by the CNMI government to the airline.

This month, Asiana began using a smaller aircraft, reducing its capacity by 73 passengers per trip.

Arrivals from South Korea slipped for the fourth straight month in February to 8,305, down by more than 3,000 tourists compared to the same month last year.

KILILI

From Page 1

that he stands by his campaign pledges to reform a broken immigration system

The White House later characterized the meeting with the Hispanic members of the Senate and House of Representatives as "robust and strategic."

"We met with the President for about an hour around the table in the State Dining Room of the White House," said Kilili. "We presented our agenda and our plan of action; and I think it's fair to say that we have the President's complete commitment to comprehensive immigration reform.

"In fact, the President reminded us that he has been committed to tackling immigration since he was a member of the Senate. 'You're preaching to the choir,' he told us."

As a member of the Senate Obama called for stronger border and work-place enforcement. "But for reform to work, we also must respond to what pulls people to America... Where we can reunite families, we should. Where we can bring in more foreign-born workers with the skills our economy needs, we should."

Sablan said the President's words should be very encouraging to the Northern Marianas. "Our issues are very similar to the national issues."

The Northern Marianas Delegate said this is also the reason he joined the Hispanic Caucus. "We all share the goal of passing an immigration law that protects students, families, workers, and entrepreneurs, while at the same time maintaining responsible control of our nation's borders."

"We came to the President today as allies and supporters, and in return he showed us that he remains committed to immigration reform that stabilizes our economy, secures our borders and keeps our families together," said Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez, chairman of the CHC Immigration Task Force. "I believe that a plan is forthcoming, and that we will see real change this year."

During the meeting, Obama reaffirmed his understanding of the difficulties immigrants face. He also assured the members that he is pursuing ways, including administrative first steps, to ensure that enforcement policies do not result in the separation of families.

"I appreciate that President Obama understands the real difficulties that families are facing. The danger that families may be separated is one of the three main reasons I've asked for a delay in commencement of the transition to federal control in the Northern Mariana Islands," Sablan said.

On Feb. 9, 2009, the CNMI congressman sent a letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet

Napolitano requesting the delay. On Feb. 26 Sablan and a small group of CHC Congressional Hispanic Caucus met with Napolitano at the Capitol to discuss immigration issues, including the 180-day delay for the CNMI.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus is very active in the immigration forefront. The Caucus has conducted "Family Unity" town hall meetings across the nation to focus attention on the need for immigration reform. At the meetings members of the public, immigrants and U.S. citizens alike share their stories of how they have been impacted by the current immigration policies.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus was founded in 1976. (PR)

AMEND

From Page 1

all OAG lawyers are being amended in anticipation of the possible enactment of Senate Bill 16-51, SDI, titled the "Attorney General Confirmation Act of 2009."

The Senate passed the measure to clarify the law requiring Senate confirmation for an individual to hold the position of AG, acting AG, or interim AG.

"In anticipation of the possible enactment of the enclosed 'Attorney General Confirmation Act of 2009,' the contracts of all OAG lawyers' contracts are being amended to require Assistant Attorneys General or Special Assistant Attorneys General to 'serve up to a maximum of 30 days per contract period as Acting Attorney General, if so appointed," he said in an e-mail to the lawyers. "If anyone is unwilling to undertake this important mutual service to the OAG, kindly advise me so we can determine whether or when to begin the process of terminating your contract 'without cause' upon 60 days notice, 'for the convenience of the government.' The OAG literally cannot function without all of us doing our part."

There are 16 or 17 people that were

sent the notice, according to Baka, and so far all have agreed to amended contracts.

Baka succeeded to the position of acting attorney general on Sept. 28 in the absence of an appointed AG, after Matthew Gregory stepped down from the position. Under the Commonwealth Code, the governor or designee is required to submit the nomination to the Senate, or when applicable, the House, within 30 days of the person being temporarily appointed. If the Senate, and when applicable, the House, does not confirm the appointment of the person holding the temporary appointed position, the position will terminate.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has not submitted Baka's name to the Senate because, as deputy AG, Baka succeeded to the position of acting AG, Baka earlier said. He noted that his salary remains that of deputy attorney general, his contractual position.

Senate President Pete Reyes, who authored the measure, said the CNMI can't continue to operate with an acting attorney general.

"We cannot continue to operate on an acting AG, using a loophole in the law, because this makes a mockery out of the office, and this is an important office," he said. "It's necessary to fill that position. The Constitution calls for it, and

the fact that Mr. Gregory Baka continues to occupy that, hiding behind a law that provides for the loophole, is just unnecessary. And I think for the highest law enforcement in the land to search for a loophole in the law in order to perpetuate the acting capacity and retain his deputy position, it is just not right."

All eight senators present voted in favor of the bill. Sen. Paul Manglona was absent. The House of Representatives must still vote on the measure.

Baka, in a letter to Reyes and House Speaker Arnold Palacios, outlined his concerns with the bill. He cited the federal law related to vacancies and appointments.

"In the case of an officer whose appointment is required to be made by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, upon death, resignation, or other inability to perform the functions and duties of the office, an acting officer undertakes the functions and duties of the vacant office temporarily in an acting capacity," he wrote, adding that the federal time limit for any one acting officer is generally 210 days or almost seven months. It could be longer due to sickness, a pending Senate confirmation or transitions between administrations. Baka has held the position of acting AG for almost six months.

If successive acting officers are not

appointed, an office is expressly permitted to be vacant, Baka wrote about the federal government code.

This example, he said, is the best way to improve sections within the Commonwealth Code. It applies to all departments, is clear and unambiguous, and promotes service of the highest caliber available personnel by allowing adequate time to fill the position.

"In contrast, the subject bill is convoluted and literally promotes or invites litigation, thus doing a grave disservice to our Commonwealth and the administration of our laws," he added.

However, the biggest flaw in the bill is an "unspoken premise" that no acting AG has been nominated because the governor has failed to nominate a qualified candidate, he said, "as if there were some intention by the Executive Branch to circumvent the confirmation requirement."

"To the contrary, the reason we have an Acting AG is that no qualified individual has been identified who is willing to serve under the current circumstances. The government cannot force an unwilling individual to be nominated to serve as attorney general," he said, emphasizing the phrase "no qualified individual has been identified who is willing to serve" by placing it in bold and italicizing it.

Baka recommended to the legislators that they change the wording of the bill by adding "or succeeded to office" after "temporarily appointed," if they want acting officials to be subject to the same temporal limitations as temporary appointees.

"However, unless we want an Acting-Attorney-General-of-the-Month Club, or the same for other acting department heads, the 30-day limit in that section should be changed to something more reasonable, such as the 210 days used by the federal government," he wrote.

He has called on the community to help identify qualified and willing candidates for the position of attorney general.

Rep. Tina Sablan said Baka's notice of termination to the OAG lawyers raises several concerns.

"First, if there are assistant attorneys who believe that Mr. Baka's ambiguous and indefinite occupation of the acting attorney general position amounts to a circumvention of CNMI law and a violation of Demapan v. Kara, those assistant attorneys are also likely to believe that Mr. Baka's new policy which paves the way for rotating acting AGs is also illegitimate and a circumvention of law," she said. "And Mr. Baka is es-

See AMEND on Next Page

Pre-summit forum draws questions about CNMI's future

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

Federalization, lack of flights and unreliable infrastructure are but some of the challenges faced by the CNMI even as it tries to identify new industries to fuel the economy, including call centers, aquaculture, alternative energy and educational tourism.

But Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Jim Arenovski said the CNMI should not lose sight of its "bread and butter," which is the tourism industry.

During yesterday's pre-economic summit public session at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, at least 28 participants shared their views and raised concerns on how to get the CNMI economy going after the demise of the garment industry and a continuous slowdown in tourism. The session was a prelude to the long-awaited Economic Restoration Summit set for April 2 and 3.

Sixto Igisomar of the Department of Commerce said the preeconomic summit was able to draw a diverse crowd to identify alternative industries and challenges.

"People have different views of things but we will try to work things out," he told Saipan Tribune, referring to the concerns of Tinian and Rota participants who feel that casino investments are being ignored as a viable alternative industry.

Via video teleconference, participants from Rota and Tinian took turns reminding the pre-economic summit session that the casino industry needs to be promoted. "Do not ignore casino investments on Rota ad Tinian. Casinos are popping in Asia, in the U.S. We have to promote our casino industry; this is a CNMI industry," a Tinian participant said.

Tinian has only one operat-

ing casino—the Tinian Dynastv Hotel and Casino—which, along with other investors, is being challenged by low tourism arrivals and the impending exclusion of Chinese tourists from the federal visa waiver program and another 50-cent minimum wage increase in May. Rota, which has yet to see a casino investor, faces the same challenges.

The lack of reliable and affordable transportation is also hampering efforts to promote tourism. Arenovski, for example, said the CNMI tourism industry may find it hard to lure military personnel and their families who will be stationed in Guam as a result of the buildup because the airline fares here are so high.

the permitting process and "red tape" poses a big challenge to investors.

Lack of infrastructure like roads and reliable power, according to another participant, is hampering future investments in the CNMI.

Sergio Loya, project manager for Management Analysis Inc., said the CNMI government is trying to have infrastructure needs funded by the stimulus package.

"What if we don't get the grants? Then everything falls? Is there a Plan B?" one of the participants asked.

Igisomar, in response, said the CNMI government has identified over \$400 million of "shovelready" projects, and is hoping to

Another Rota participant said get at least \$100 million of these projects funded by the \$787 billion stimulus package.

> Commerce Secretary Michael Ada earlier said he would be pleased if the CNMI was awarded \$100 million to \$150 million in competitive stimulus grant money.

> The pre-economic summit public session, which focused on identifying economic opportunities, challenges, potential industries, and proposed changes to regulations that will benefit the CNMI, was organized by Commerce and the Commonwealth Development Authority, in partnership with Northern Marianas College and IT&E. The second session will be for government officials on March 26.

AMEND

From Page 4

sentially demanding that those attorneys consent to terms that they might believe to be professionally unethical, not to mention illegal."

Second, Sablan said, it makes no sense that Baka is threatening to fire the few assistant attorneys general left when he has repeatedly said the OAG is understaffed and overworked.

Moreover, one of the provisions of that bill is to bar for two years anyone who has served in an acting capacity as attorney

general without ever being confirmed by the Senate, the representative said.

"In attempting to force his assistant attorneys to serve as acting AG, Mr. Baka would also. if this bill is signed into law, be forcing them to rule themselves out as potential candidates for attorney general nominations in the future for at least two years."

The real problem, however, is that as long as Baka occupies the position indefinitely, the governor will continue not to nominate anyone to the position, and the credibility of the Office of the Attorney General will continue







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Ex-PSS chief Borja to be Kumoi's running mate

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Public School System commissioner Dr. David Borja has been tapped by gubernatorial candidate Ramon "Kumoi" Guerrero to be his running mate in the November polls.

Guerrero said Borja was selected from a pool of 18 possible running mates by his campaign committee, which in turn acted on input from the community.

"I asked my committee to streamline the Top 5. In the end, Dr. Borja emerged on top," Guerrero said.

The Guerrero-Borja tandem is set to proclaim its candidacy last night at Guerrero's residence in As Perdido. The ticket's slogan is "Time for Change."

Guerrero, a former senator and executive director of Commonwealth Utilities Corp., said Borja's selection culminated a process that started before Christmas

Since the names on the list were provided by community members, Guerrero said he is confident that they will get the support of voters.

Guerrero added that Borja's commitment and dedication to education is one of the strongest points of their ticket.

Borja served not only in the military but also spent majority of his years in the field of education, serving in various capacities—classroom teacher, principal, and associate commissioner for administrative services. He went on to succeed Dr. Rita Inos as education commissioner in 2006. His stint as PSS head abruptly ended when the Board of Education replaced him in June last year with Dr. Rita Sablan.

Guerrero said he appreciates Borja's decision to join his gubernatorial ticket.

Citing this year's elections

as the most challenging in the history of the Commonwealth, Guerrero is optimistic that his tandem with Borja will create a positive impact on government.

"The strongest point here is suffering...and we want to help. Running with an education expert like Dr. Borja would spell a difference and change for the CNMI," he said.

Guerrero served as special assistant to former governor Froilan Tenorio for seven years. He was also a former director of CUC for four years and served as senator from 2000 to 2004.

What motivated him to seek the CNMI's highest post? "With the current sufferings of our people...I know I can offer help especially with our problems on power and medical referrals." He did not elaborate, saying their campaign platform will be released soon.

Rudy Sablan is the chairman to elect Guerrero and Borja.

Man, 63, gets 6 years for sex abuse of a girl

A 63-year-old man who sexually abused a 5-year-old girl last year was sentenced yesterday to six years in prison.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo meted out a 10-year prison sentence on Sanito D. Estrera—all suspended except for six years—for the offense of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

After completing the prison term Estrera will be placed on 10 years of probation.

10 years of probation.

Govendo ordered the defendant to pay a \$500 fine, court

costs, and probation fees.

Govendo also required Estrera to perform 500 hours of community service and barred him from possessing or drinking any alcoholic beverages during his probationary period.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendant with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and another count of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree. Estrera and his counsel, the Public Defender's Office, signed a plea agreement with the government. The defendant pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree. The other count was dismissed as agreed by the parties.

Chief Prosecutor Kevin Lynch appeared for the government at yesterday's hearing.

The plea agreement stated that on June 18, 2008, on Saipan, Estrera, 62, engaged in sexual contact with a 5-year-old girl.

Police said the abuse happened at a residence in Chalan Kanoa. Estrera admitted to police that he sexually abused the minor. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Guard sues employers over wages, OT A security guard has sued his Labor Standards Act, Minimum "Defendants assigned Yasin

A security guard has sued his former employers for allegedly refusing to pay him regular wages and overtime compensation.

Mohammed Yasin sued Peter Go, also known as Peter Coelho; Empress Inc., owner of 9922 Store, Empress Tours, Beijing Restaurant, and NIC Health Store.

Go was the day-to-day manager and the alter ego of Empress Inc., according to the complaint.

Yasin, through lawyer Joe Hill, asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to order the defendants to pay him his unpaid regular wages and overtime compensation.

He asked the court to rule that the defendants violated the Fair Wage and Hour Act, and the Nonresident Workers Act by failing to keep and maintain adequate records of hours worked.

Hill stated in the complaint that on Feb. 7, 2007, Go hired Yasin to work as a security guard at the defendants' then newly opened tourist specialty retail outlet in Garapan known as the 9922 Store.

Hill said the defendants used Yasin to take good and items from inside a container in the morning and then return them into the container at the close of each business day.

Hill said the defendants then required Yasin to work and serve as security guard for the 9922 premises and containers overnight.

"Defendants assigned Yasin to a basic daily work schedule of eight to nine hours daily, seven days a week. Yasin worked the said schedule since the start of his employment until his final day of work on Dec. 31, 2008," the lawyer said.

The defendants, Hill said, failed to pay the guard his full regular and overtime wages for work actually performed from Feb. 7, 2007, to Dec. 31, 2008, as required by the FLSA and MWHA.

"Defendants failed to keep adequate records of and failed to provide Yasin with a check stub or other proper writing showing all hours worked, amounts paid and deductions each pay period," he added. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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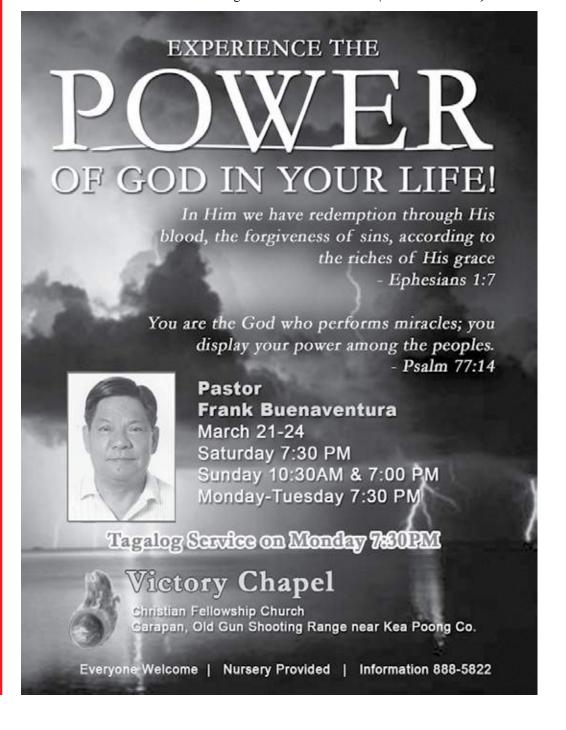












Fitial asks for China, Russia in waiver program, again

kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com REPORTER

As the comment period for the proposed Guam- CNMI Visa Waiver Program ended, Gov. Benigno Fitial once again asked the Department of Homeland Security to consider allowing China and Russian tourists to enter the CNMI without a visa.

The 60-day comment period for the interim final rule ended Tuesday Washington D.C. time. The proposed regulations left out the two countries as part of the waiver program that will go into effect as part of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, which will extend federal immigration laws to the CNMI. The start date for the law is June 1, with a possible delay of up to 180 days. The CNMI has sued DHS and the U.S. Department of Labor to halt the implementation of the law.

China and Russia, which were left off the list due to security concerns, according to DHS, should be included to help prevent an economic collapse in the islands' economy, Fitial said in a statement.

"The intention of Congress in passing the Consolidated Natural Resources Act, as stated in the statute, was to expand tourism opportunities for the islands. Ending travel by Russian and Chinese tourists is clearly contrary to congressional intent," he said. "We are working with DHS to find a mutually agreeable remedy."

"Accordingly, housing ben-

efits for each government office

could be better spent on op-

erational needs or on personnel

needs of the office," he said.

Yumul: Investigate reports of housing benefits abuse

By KRISTI EATON

kristi_eaton@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Rep. Ray Yumul has asked Public Auditor Michael Pai to look into allegations that some government employees are receiving housing benefits contrary to the law.

"The concerns coming out within government is that certain off island hires, specifically expats are being given housing benefits," Yumul said.

The representative said on Sept. 30, 2005, Public Law 14-91 established a sunset provision, repealing housing benefits or allowance of \$600 per month for an employee without dependents or \$800 per month for an employee with dependents. The provision said regulation in effect on Aug. 1, 2005 should remain in effect for not more than two years.

"Therefore, all new government employment contracts after October 1, 2007 should not have included housing benefits." Yumul wrote in a letter to Pai. "However, it has come to my attention that many contracts executed after October 1, 2007 included benefits."

Also, he wrote, even if employees are authorized to receive benefits notwithstanding PL 14-91, there is a five-year restriction. But there are reports some employees are receiving benefits in excess of five years, he added.

"This matter is of great importance considering the declining economy and government resources," Yumul said. "Moreover, it is not fair for resident employees in similar positions that do not receive housing benefits for their off-island hire counterparts to receive housing benefits if it's in violation of the law or if there is no regulation authorizing such an entitlement."

More importantly, the representative added, Gov. Benigno Fitial has indicated a need to furlough employees due to budget reductions.

through its Marianas Visitors Authority, has estimated the small island economy in the CNMI will lose 656 public sector jobs and 733 private sectors jobs if China and Russia are excluded in the proposed waiver, the state-

Although Fitial was not one of the 47 people or entities to submit public comments to the government through the regulations.gov Web site, the governor met with Assistant Secretary Richard Barth of

ment said

The CNMI government, Homeland Security in February in Washington D.C. to discuss the issues in person.

> CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan was the last person to comment on the proposed regulations.

> Sablan said absent a finding that the inclusion threatens the welfare, safety, or security of the United States or its territories, China and Russia should be included. But if they are excluded, DHS needs to set a procedure on how they can be reconsidered in the future, and detail what extra security mea

sures are necessary. The congressman also asked that the regulations make clear visitors can visit Guam for 45 days and the CNMI for 45 days.

Elitza Stoilova, the Russian market manager for Pacific Island Clubs Saipan, noted that although Russia is 1.8 bigger in landmass than the U.S.. there are only three cities with U.S. consulates, making obtaining a visa expensive, difficult and time-consuming.

Fitial, in the statement, said the CNMI is hopeful Homeland Security will take the public in-

"The Marianas community has been working in good faith with officials at the DHS. It is very disappointing to hear in media reports today that contrary to what we were told in January by DHS officials, the door has already been closed regarding travel by Chinese and Russian tourists," Fitial said. "We sincerely hope DHS did not make a decision on this before the comment period ended yesterday and testimonies were considered."



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NMI to request stimulus funds soon

soon submit his request and certification to the federal government that funds received under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will promote economic growth and create jobs.

In order for any state or territory to receive funds, the governor must submit the certifica-

Gov. Benigno Fitial said he would tion within 45 days of President Obama signing the Act into law on Feb. 17. Or, if a governor does not submit a certification letter by the deadline, the state Legislature may accept the funds by adopting a concurrent resolution. After certification, funds will be distributed to local governments, councils of

government, public entities, and public-private entities within the state or territory either by formula or at the jurisdiction's discretion, according to recovery.gov, a Web site created by the Obama administration to keep the public up-to-date on the stimulus package.

As of yesterday afternoon, 34

states had submitted certification letters, as well as Washington D.C. and the governors of American Samoa and Puerto Rico.

A list of the states and territories that have submitted their request and certification letters can be viewed at recovery.gov. Copies of the letters can also be downloaded. (Kristi Eaton)

doctors certified ver-the-cap salaries of 3

certified the over-the-cap salaries of three Commonwealth Health Center physicians whose annual salaries range between \$105,000 and \$133,500.

In three separate letters on Feb. 26 and 27, then acting Gov. Timothy P. Villagomez's certification will allow Dr.

The Fitial administration has Florian Braig, an ear, nose and throat physician, to receive an annual salary exceeding the \$50,000 cap set by the Compensation Adjustment Act. Braig will be receiving \$133,500 a year.

Dr. Larry B. Hocog, a family medicine physician, has also been allowed to receive an annual salary of \$105,000.

Also allowed to receive an annual salary of \$140,000 is Dr. Gregory Kotheimer, an emergency medicine physician at CHC.

Public Law 8-6, or the Salary Amendment Act of 1992, sets the salary ceiling for government employees at

\$50,000. However, the law gives the governor the authority to waive the ceiling, and submit a certification to the Legislature.

The governor is also mandated to advise the Civil Service Commission of any move to grant over-the-cap salaries. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

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March 20, 2000

CUC legal counsel quits

Assistant Attorney General Bill Ohle has reportedly resigned as legal counsel of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, apparently a victim of the power struggle within the board following the ouster of former Chair Rosario M. Elameto. He handed his resignation letter to CUC Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez immediately after the election of Jesus T. Guerrero as chair last Thursday during a board meeting. When sought over the weekend for comment, Mr. Ohle neither confirmed nor denied the report, saying only that he would respond to questions this week. According to sources, Villagomez accepted his resignation on the day he submitted the letter.

Lang eyes comeback in 2001 election

Eyeing another shot at the highest post in the Commonwealth, former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio disclosed last Friday he would launch his bid for the gubernatorial election next year under the Reform Party. At the same time, he criticized the present administration for using him as a scapegoat for most of the problems dogging the CNMI, saying it is time for a change in order to improve the island's economy. But Mr. Tenorio said he has yet to pick a running mate for the 2001 elections, whom he added he wants to come from the Democrats—the party he deserted last year to form the new political party.

March 20, 2001

Tougher anti-prostitution law on the way

Legislators are now working on the amended version of the antiprostitution law, seen to mete out sex workers and pimps with tighter penalties that may include longer jail term and deportation for non-Americans. House Committee on Health and Welfare Chair Malua Peter said work is now underway for the incorporation of proposals submitted by the Department of Public Safety to the amended version of the law. Ms. Peter said she hopes to introduce the proposed measure in the next session of the House of Representatives to complement efforts by the Administration against continued operation of the sex trade in the CNMI.

CDA threatens to takeover **CUC**

The Commonwealth Development Authority warned that it may takeover the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation if the power firm continues to ignore demands to pay its \$150 million debt. During the inquiry called in yesterday by House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication Chair Rosiky Camacho, CDA underscored CUC's obligation's to pay both the principal and the interest of the multi-million dollar loan. The much participated meeting drew attention from the Department of Finance, NMI Retirement Fund, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attorney General's Office and other members of the House of the Representatives.

March 20, 2002

'Bombing to go on'

The U.S. Navy has indicated that, even if the court has already ruled in favor of the Center for Biological Diversity on the matter of the Farallon de Mendinilla bombing, it would wait for a court injunction before it halts bombing practices on the island. At the same time, CBD counsel Paul Achitoff said there is no negotiations going on between the CBD and the U.S. Navy as to the cessation of bombing exercises on Farallon de Mendinilla, following the court's ruling on the case. Achitoff said that, to his knowledge, the U.S. Navy has not appealed the court's adverse decision, in connection with the legality of the military exercises.

Manglona: Map out strategy in FDM issue

Senate President Paul A. Manglona said the best way to handle the recent court ruling that U.S. military bombings on the Farallon de Mendinilla violates a bird treaty is for the CNMI to map out a single approach that would balance the need to protect the environment and the economic survival of the local economy. At the same time, Manglona stressed that, although the CNMI is not a party to the lawsuit filed by the Center for Biological Diversity against the U.S. military, the Commonwealth still has to be concerned over the court's adverse ruling against the U.S. military as it would directly affect revenue-generating efforts of the CNMI. "We need to talk to our counsel, as well as the Governor, his legal counsel and the Office of the Attorney General. We have to come up together with one approach on how to go about this issue," said the Senate

Japanese who built House of Prayer returns to Saipan

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The Japanese man who built the Nanmeido or the Saipan International House of Prayer at the souls of the deceased soldiers," according to 81-year-old Reverend Shinrvu Akita.

After staying in Hawaii for almost 10 years, Akita and his 75-year-old wife came back on Feb. 26, 2009, to Saipan where

> In an interview with Saipan Tribune yesterday, Akita said that, except for the Saipan Mayor's Office, no one has really tried maintain the temple for many years.

"When we dusty," Akita.

Akita shouldered most of the expenses to build the temple. The rest of the money came

from donations from relatives and friends of soldiers who were killed during the Battle of Saipan.

It took five years to com-

they plan to stay permanently.

> first came to visit the temple, it was very said

Reverend Shinryu Akita and his wife have returned to Saipan to help maintain the Nanmeido or the Saipan International House of Prayer at the Sugar

"I think it is my duty to preserve the temple to console the

Sugar King Park in 1990 has

moved to Saipan so he can main-

tain the temple until his death.

By SYLVIA HAYWOOD

First of a four-part series

The Friends of the Arts will be presenting the musical, My Fair Lady, on two successive weekends in April. The first showing will be on Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, 2009. The second showing will take place on Friday April 24, and Saturday, April 25, 2009. This is the musical adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's Pygmalion. Shaw was interested in exploring the power divide between the rich and the poor as well as the differences between accents and ideas of the different social classes. The following is a condensed explanation of Acts I through V of the play, Pygmalion, and will appear on four successive Fridays before the musical is presented at the Multi-Purpose Center on Beach Road.

It is raining in Covent Garden at 11:15pm. Freddy is explaining to his mother and sister Clara that there are no cabs available. While looking around, he runs into Liza, a flower girl, and spills her flowers into the mud. Freddie's mother gives Liza sixpence to compensate her for her loss. Colonel Pickering comes onstage, and Liza tries to sell him a flower. A man behind a pillar is writing down every word Liza speaks and she thinks he is working for the police; she claims she has done nothing wrong. Henry

Higgins, the man behind the pillar, shows her that he is interested in her accent only and he amuses the crowd by imitating the manner in which she speaks. Liza is very upset because she thinks Higgins is mocking her, but actually he is simply trying to explain the difference in accents between the different classes in England.

In the course of their conversation, Higgins and Pickering learn that they are destined to be friends as Pickering wanted to meet the inventor of' The Higgins Universal Alphabet", a method of shorthand writing. Pickering had actually come from India to meet Higgins. They go off together to have dinner after Higgins gives Liza a generous amount of money to compensate her for her loss.

Liza takes the cab home that Freddie finally finds for his mother and sister, but they are already gone. The cabbie was hesitant about letting her ride, but she had plenty of money, thanks to Henry Higgins, so he gave her a ride.

Next week, we will explore Liza's goal of self-improvement, as she is manipulated into participating in an experiment with Higgins to change her entire persona. We will also see her transformation of Liza, the flower girl, into Eliza, the society lady.

Editor's Note: Sylvia Haywood is the publicity chairman for the Friends of the Arts.

To be continued next Friday

construction. Akita said it was built for the purpose of consoling the souls of American and Japanese soldiers who were killed during the war.

Akita said after its construction, a Japanese professor, a Sri

plete the House of Prayer's Lankan Buddhist minister, and an African-American took turns maintaining the temple.

> He said it's been many years now that no resident minister has been maintaining the House of Prayers.

Since arriving on the island

last month, the Akita couple commute every day from their house on Capital Hill to Sugar King just to clean the House of Prayer. Akita said he and his wife's daily visits have paid off as they are almost done with the cleanup.

He encouraged visitors and local residents alike to visit the temple, which is open every day, and offer some prayers.

"I decided to stay here on Saipan permanently to preserve the temple as long as I live," Akita added.





or Minako Kayagaki at extension 2009.

10 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



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EDITORIAL

The big bash

uesday, we were more skeptical than most about the "populist" backlash against the \$165 million in bonuses that went to some employees of government-owned AIG. The events of the past 24 hours have only confirmed our view. We don't love the fact that the men and women of this disgraced company are insisting upon the compensation they signed up for before the company collapsed into the arms of the taxpayers. But whether they are being greedy, or simply human, is hardly relevant to what is in the public interest now. AIG's demagogic critics in both parties should keep that in mind.

For better or worse, the U.S. government—i.e., all of us—now owns AIG. The firm is hemorrhaging knowledgeable employees at precisely the time when it—and therefore we—need them most. No matter how morally satisfying, taking back bonuses now, as proposed this week in belated outrage by Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid, D-Nev., and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., would probably accelerate the exodus, with the likely effect that the country would lose much more money on AIG than it would otherwise. Yes, \$165 million is a lot of money. But it is 0.09 percent of the total AIG bailout cost, \$173 billion. The relevant policy question here is not whether we feel like spending \$165 million on bonuses; it is whether doing so will help wrap up the AIG rescue as cheaply and quickly as possible.

The company's chief executive, Edward M. Liddy, who was brought in from outside at \$1 per year to unwind AIG on behalf of the government, seems to think that it will. Others who are not in his position of responsibility are fully exploiting their freedom to disagree. Thus, the attorney general of New York, Andrew M. Cuomo, among other Democrats, floated the argument that the AIG employees should get stiffed because "it is only by the grace of American taxpayers that members of Financial Products even have jobs, let alone a pool of retention bonus money." True. But the bonuses were set in motion well before the U.S. takeover of AIG, which was done to avoid a Lehman Brothers-like meltdown that would have cost taxpayers a lot more than \$165 million, and the compensation plan has been public information for a year. And then there is Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, who first suggested that the folks at AIG should consider committing suicide, samurai-style before saying he would settle for some "contrition."

Under the circumstances, we can understand why President Obama feels that he must join this opportunistic chorus rather than resist it. Still, this has not been a stellar moment for the man who came into office arguing that "the time has come to set aside childish things." With hundreds of billions of dollars in necessary repairs to the financial system still to come, Mr. Obama must find a way to explain those costs in terms that neither inflame the public nor insult its intelligence. The best we've heard so far came from a non-politician, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben S. Bernanke. AIG's irresponsible behavior angers Mr. Bernanke, too, but he's not losing his cool. On CBS's "60 Minutes" last Sunday, he likened the firm to a neighbor who sets his house on fire by smoking in bed; the town has a choice between letting the place burn down to teach him a lesson, or dousing the flames to prevent them from consuming the homes of non-smoking neighbors. "That's where we are now," he said. "We have a fire going on." This is no time to be throwing more fuel on it.

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Sorry excuses

othing my alcoholic, belt-wielding father ever did to me as a child enraged me as much as the day he pulled me aside, said how sorry he was for his shabby parenting and stuck out his hand in a gesture of conciliation. Implicit in the remorse-by-numbers routine he'd learned at his Alcoholics Anonymous meetings was the suggestion that if he were man enough to apologize, I should be man enough to forgive him. Sorry, Pop: No dice.

I felt something along the same lines last Thursday, when Bernard Madoff appeared in a federal courtroom in Manhattan to shed a few crocodile tears. After pleading guilty to masterminding a Ponzi scheme that bilked thousands of investors out of their life savings, Madoff admitted that he had "deeply hurt many, many people" and added, "I cannot adequately express how sorry I am for what I have done."

Here, for perhaps the first time in a quarter-century, Madoff may actually have been telling the truth. Clearly, a monster like that cannot adequately express how sorry he is for what he has done, not only because he lacks the requisite verbal skills but because, by the looks of things, he's not all that sorry for his crimes. Genuine contrition requires restitution. But by refusing to assist the government in locating any of the \$billions he allegedly stole, much less in refusing to identify his confederates, Madoff made no effort whatsoever to atone for his myriad crimes. This makes his mealy-mouthed apology even more offensive to his victims: I'm deeply sorry for the crimes that I committed. I regret the distress I have caused. But I'm keeping the money. And leave my wife out of this.

Where does Madoff get such chutzpah? Lamentably, the insincere, halfhearted, unoccasioned or self-serving apology has become a staple of modern life. Last year, when former New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer resigned, he had the nerve to say: "I have acted in a way that violates ... my or any sense of right and wrong." This arch phrasing suggested that he too had been a victim of his wrongdoing, that not only the people of New York had suffered but his own sense of right and wrong had been abused. This is a perfect example of the apology that, by its refusal to address what was actually done in terms suitable for the occasion, makes the public even more livid. After all, this was a man who was wielding his terrible, swift sword at white-collar criminals while cavorting with hookers on the side. He didn't regret disgracing his wife and family or acting in a manner that violated some amorphous moral code. He regretted getting caught.

Almost any time a public figure has apologized in recent times, he has only succeeded in making a bad situation worse. When Holocaust-denying Bishop Richard Williamson finally succumbed to Vatican pressure and apologized for his heinous views, he merely expressed regret for the pain he may have caused sensitive Jews by making such comments, without actually apologizing for denying the Holocaust. He also used the inelegant expression "survivors and relatives of victims of injustice under the Third Reich" to describe the plight of butchered European Jewry, as if the Nazis were guilty

By JOE QUEENAN

Special to the Los Angeles Times

Joe Queenan is the author of many books, including Closing Time, out next month from Viking.

ish-owned property for failure to pay back taxes.

Issuing self-serving apologies that make the victimized feel as if they are facing another round of victimization is a Vatican tradition; back in 2000, when Pope John Paul II apologized to Jews for their mistreatment at the hands of Christians over the ages, he expressed remorse for the actions of sons and daughters of the Catholic Church who might have strayed from the church's traditional values. This suggested that the Inquisition and the Crusades were rogue operations with which the church had no official connection. The Christians who burned, blinded and immolated all those Jews down through the centuries were renegades, mavericks, free-lancers. God forbid that anyone should suggest Catholics had anything to do with it.

of nothing more serious than putting a few bogus liens against Jew-

Bill Clinton, a penitent par excellence, made a fetish out of apologizing to anyone within earshot. In addition to issuing mea culpas to blacks for centuries of mistreatment at the hands of their countrymen—as if that were going to make everything even-steven—he also apologized for the Western world's dithering response to the genocide in Rwanda. This marvel of insensitivity suggested that he personally had had nothing to do with the decision to dither, even though he was, technically, the leader of the free world at the time.

Famous for referring to his affair with Monica Lewinsky as a relationship that was "not appropriate" instead of the outrage that it was, Clinton brought the public apology to a new level of vapidity, insincerity and contempt for the truth. A master of apologizing for misdeeds that neither he nor anyone else had any intention of rectifying, Clinton could have given Richard ("I am not a crook/I let down the American people") Nixon a run for his money.

One of the worst innovations in modern life is the My Bad Syndrome. This is the situation when malefactors apologize for doing things that no one else possibly could be held responsible for and then expect a ticker-tape parade. "At least I'm man enough to admit that I chopped down that cherry tree!" Well, you did chop down that cherry tree. We saw you with the ax.

That's the kind of apology (in a more private setting) that my father was offering me, and let me assure you, it did not have the effect he was hoping for.

Now, with Madoff's sham apology, hasn't the time finally See SORRY on Next Page The Saipan Tribune welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

This is a test...

aipan, like anywhere else in the world, has some ambitious people who want to achieve things in life, and has some less ambitious people who are happy as long as their bellies are full and the TV works. But the world's economy faces problems as the U.S. economy commits a messy and, frankly, tragic suicide. Soon, a lot of people, many of them with gray hair, will find themselves scrapping to retool their professional skills.

Some will find themselves back in classrooms. I've known people in their 40s who have gone back to college. I've known people in their 50s who have taken the nursing written exam. I've known people in their 60s who have taken written pilot exams.

It seems that I've spent my entire life taking written exams. I think I do better on tests than I do in real life. Well, so be it, and, for the benefit of young students and grizzled gray hairs alike, here are the techniques that I've come up with for knowledge tests (as opposed to aptitude tests, which I never bothered to prepare for):

Material

A reasonably intelligent person can grasp a lot from one quick perusal of material.

So, in general, from my experience it's most effective to read through, just once, even if very quickly, all the basic material that might be on the test. Of course, this is only feasible in certain situations. Still, I'm surprised at the folks who find test preparation books and start plowing through them, ant-like, without reviewing the basic subject matter first; they frequently get bogged down at some point and lack a bigger context to provide strategic perspective for preparation.

Triage

Some material is harder than other material. In fact, some is so hard, or so tedious, that it doesn't pay to give it detailed study after the first read-through. Nobody has an infinite amount of time to prepare, so it's wise to pick the lowest hanging fruit.

Flash cards

Computerize them! That way when (not if, but when) you lose them, or spill coffee on them, or want to revise them, you don't have to write them out again. And you can keep one set at work, one in the car, etc. Also, you can make worksheets from these files easily, so you can reinforce the stuff by writing it out.

The Avery 2-inch by 4-inch shipping labels (Avery item #5163, for example) work great. Stick one label on the front of an index card, another on the back.

Don't study in groups

Ever. It's a waste of time. Learning is a solitary endeavor, which is why, in this age of groupthink, so few people can do it.

Take your favorite calculator

A familiar calculator can really help out. A test is no place to try to learn a new calculator. While I'm on the topic, get a good calculator to begin with. A good basic calculator should have a "1/x" (inverse) key and an "x" to the "y" power (exponent) key; if you understand math, this will let you fly through calculations a lot faster than dumb-dumb keys like percentage and square root.

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.



Think logistics

Military officers like to say, "Amateurs talk strategy, but professionals talk logistics."

The day before a big test, I don't study at all. It's logistics and relaxation day. I assemble my pencils, pens, erasers, and so on. I get cash to have in my pocket for incidentals. I gas up the car. I ensure my ID is ready. I make sure I've printed out directions to the test location. And I make sure I have two cans of cold, sugary Coke in the fridge, ready to go, which is what powers my brain for tests (glucose), and powers my dentist's trips to Bali as well (services rendered).

This might sound a bit obsessive, but it's nice to awaken on the big day and have no last minute errands to run. I'm relaxing over my morning coffee, while my competition is racing around in a frazzle for gas or pencil lead.

In the Commonwealth and just about everywhere else, life is going to get harder for all but the rich. Test-taking is an important skill. It's not just for school kids.

Letters to the Editor

Misfire under Obamanomics?

There's the claim of a misfire under the Obama "spendulus" package. This was triggered by the lack of clarity of a plan from the czar of the U.S. Treasury to aid revival of the banking or financial system. This indecisiveness, as human as it may be, came under fire from economists and financial analysts across the country that critically views it as missing the target by oceans apart.

Then came tidings that AIG has issued millions of dollars in bonuses to its employees after it secured bailout funds to the tune of \$170 billion under the stimulus package. It failed its better judgment of real conditions everywhere, therefore the need to pull back even what's legally in the contract until there's real national recovery. It's common sense all the way around.

Now the clowns comprised of Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Congress are back saying it would tax the bonuses 100 percent, retroactively. Weren't you the same folks who approved the yes, "In God We Trust!

stimulus package that included the very thing that AIG did a few days ago? Do private industries need more stifling regulations or is it one of transparency?

These dizzying issues slam home amidst the huge increase of deadly drug cartel gang warfare in Juarez and strings of murders from young kids across the country that have lost their moral compass. It boggles the mind if this isn't the reason why some have advocated removal of "In God We Trust" in school prayers.

I'm not sure that most folks are agnostics. Therefore, I say leave divine providence where it is. This is the foundation used by our founding fathers to establish the USA over 200 years ago. In spite of our national travails, we have overcome adversity through hope and resolve by making things better for one and all. And we did it in quiet surrender in both calm and storm to, yes, "In God We Trust!

The national train wreck of huge debts we face today started many years ago. Even conservatives took a chance veering off its set of principles by placing political survival over doing what's right. I was definitely disappointed but hopeful that a return to conservatism would reset the stage for the gainful traction of equilibrium that leaves capitalism as the prime engine of growth. The gradual transfer from the private to the pubic sector isn't the answer

We've proven national resiliency and resolve to transcend serious travails as a country. We've done it before! As gifted and powerful our country is during good and bad times, I am still confident we shall over come what besets us today.

John S. DelRosario, Jr. As Gonno, Saipan

Thank you and goodbye

To the citizens of Saipan: I am resigning my position of Zoning Administrator on April 3 so that my wife, Chris, and I can relocate to Olympia, Washington. We need to take care of our parents and want to be closer to our children. I want to thank you for all the support you have given to me and to the Zoning effort over the past few years. I also want to thank Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation and the Zoning Board members for their leadership and hard work to bring zoning back to Saipan. The board labored long hours through difficult issues and have been compensated only by the knowledge that they are working for the betterment of their own community.

Some people said they didn't think Saipan was ready for zoning. However, during many public meetings held by the Zoning board, community members stated again and again that they wanted a change. They wanted their homes and villages protected from auto shops, poker parlors, and other such incompatible activities. They wanted Garapan and other tourist areas to be family and pedestrian friendly. They wanted commercial buildings to be more attractive and to provide for traffic safety. The Zoning Board held a special workshop in May 2007 that resulted in the *Garapan and Beach Road Revitalization Plan*. These findings and recommendations were incorporated into the proposed Saipan Zoning Law of 2007.

In 2008 we began implementing the new law. As of now, the Zon-

ing Office has received over 3,600 inquiries and applications. We want to thank the public and businesses for their patience as we created the new permit systems and processed the documents. Last year was an important learning experience for us. One example of how zoning can improve the quality of life for Saipan residents is the ban on banners. I have heard repeatedly from residents that they like how buildings look without a clutter of banners and signs. Other benefits of zoning may be more subtle, or may take several years to see.

The Zoning Board developed updates to the 2007 law that were incorporated into the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008. The board intends to prepare updates every year because they want to improve the law and adapt to changes in the economy and population. I encourage everyone to trust in this process, and more importantly, to *participate* in the process, so that Saipan will indeed be a Pacific "paradise." Our tourism industry relies on our island's beauty, but more importantly, we want the best possible quality of life for ourselves and our children.

Chris and I will miss all our friends and beautiful Saipan. We hope to continue assisting the CNMI from the mainland and to come for visits. Thank you again for your support and friendship these last six years.

Steve Tilley *Zoning Administrator*

Good Samaritans

This is a thank you letter to the two gentlemen who stopped on Wednesday evening to help me after I hit a slick spot and "went down" on my motorcycle.

Fortunately, I was on the grass shoulder when I went down and so wasn't seriously injured. I was on Isa Drive around Papago at the time and doing around 35 mph.

I was down on the shoulder of the road, with the wind knocked out of me when the first person stopped to ask after my condition.

I was in so much pain, my life started to flash in front of my eyes, exactly as they say it does when you start to die, but then quickly switched to James Bond's life since mine has been way too boring to replay.

I started seeing the "white light," but it turned out to be the headlights of another guy that stopped and the two of them got my bike back up on the sidestand for me.

By now I was up and about, complete with bruised ego and muscles but thanks to the grass I was largely unhurt and they reluctantly left me, without any exchange of names.

Even then another car stopped and asked if I needed help.

Thanks to all of these people who rendered assistance and shall be known only to God.

Under the cover of darkness I quietly rode off and made it to the Taga Riders' meeting.

And so, after nearly 40 years of motorcycle riding I went down for the first time, and was very pleased to be offered so much assistance from total strangers.

It always says good things about any society that produces people willing to help a stranger in trouble. I believe that's called the story of the Good Samaritan.

Saipan is truly a wonderful place to live with outstanding people, and hardly ever a motorcycle mishap.

Ed Tudor, DVM

Sadog Tasi, Saipan

SORRY

From Page 10

come to officially ban public apologies issued by con artists, politicians, regulators, captains of industry, religious leaders and athletes? Haven't we reached the point at which the choreographed donning of sackcloth and ashes merely pours salt into a festering wound and makes the apologist's victims even more enraged? Wouldn't we all be better off telling anyone who

wants to apologize for his transgressions against humanity that the finest, most tasteful and most appreciated gesture of contrition would be simply to keep his mouth shut?

Perhaps we as a people need a new statute mandating that when wrongdoers appear in court, or even in the court of public opinion, they should do so with a sock stuffed in their mouths. Only by outfitting the Bernie Madoffs and the Eliot Spitzers and the Richard Williamsons of the world with a gag will we be able to prevent

everyone else from gagging.

I apologize in advance if anyone finds this suggestion repellent.

12 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲86° ▼76°

Guam and Rota

Palau

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong

Los Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Honolulu

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

San Francisco

Washington, DC Cloudy

Beijing

Yap

Micronesia

Showers

Showers

Showers

Partly Sunny

Showers

Sunny

Sunny

Showers

Cloudy

Showers

Cloudy

Rain

Cloudy

Sunny

Rain

Around The Globe

Partly Sunny ▲90 ▼76

Partly Sunny ▲87 ▼77

Mostly Sunny ▲68 ▼59

Partly Sunny ▲57 ▼34

Mostly Cloudy ▲70 ▼54

Mostly Sunny ▲90 ▼75

Mostly Sunny ▲82 ▼63

Partly Sunny ▲79 ▼66

Partly Sunny ▲ 51 ▼36

Mostly Sunny ▲62 ▼44



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▼76° ▲86°

▲84 ▼77

▲89 ▼78

▲88 ▼79

▲90 **▼**75

▲84 ▼77

▲63 ▼45

▲84 ▼72

▲76 **▼**69

▲48 **▼**32

▲57 ▼41

▲52 **▼**28

▲55 ▼37

▲61 **▼**49

▲64 ▼43

▲63 ▼45

▲49 ▼35



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲86°

▼76°

Guam-Narita

4:10pm 7:00pm Daily NW 73 NW 81 3:55pm 6:55pm Daily

NW 099 5:00am 7:35am Daily NW 078 8:20am 1:30pm

2.3.4.5.6.7

7:30pm Daily

DEPARTURES

Saipan-Rota

Saipan-Guam

CO9313 8:30am

CO9603 3:30pm

CO9605 6:30pm

CO9599 9:30pm

NW 075 4:55pm

Saipan-Narita

12:30pm

CO9601

Saipan-Osaka

OZ 119 4:00am 6:40am 1.4.6

Guam-Osaka NW 79 4:45pm 7:35pm Daily

Saipan-Nagoya NW 078 8:20am 11:05am Daily

Guam-Nagoya NW 23 4:30pm 7:20pm Daily

Saipan-Incheon OZ 604 2:10am 6:00am OZ 604 2:40am 6:30am 2.3.4.5.6.7 OZ 119 4:00am 11:25am 1,4,6 via Osaka OZ 606 3:20pm 7:00pm Daily

Saipan-Busan OZ 608 3:20am 6:50am 1,4,5,7

Saipan-Shanghai FM 844 2:50am 5:40am 2.6

Rota-Guam CO 9597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1,7

Guam-Palau CO 953 7:40pm 8:40pm 1,7 CO 893 5:50pm 6:50pm 3,5

Palau-Manila CO 893 7:35pm 9:10pm 3,5

Guam-Manila CO 893 5:50pm 9:10pm 3,5 via Koror CO 933 8:00pm 9:40pm Daily PR 111 6:00am 7:50am 1,2,4,6,7

Nagoya-Manila 8:40pm 11:55pm Daily

Incheon-Hongkong OZ 721 9:20am 12:00pm Daily OZ 723 7:45pm 10:35pm Daily OZ 7173 8:00pm 10:50pm 5,7

Narita-Manila 7:00pm 10:55pm Daily

ARRIVALS

Rota-Saipan CO 9598 3:25am 4:00am CO9597 11:50am 12:25pm 1.7 5.6 **Guam-Saipan** CO9317 5:00am 5:50am Daily CO 9316 2:30am 3:20am 1.2.3.4.7 9:20am Daily CO9598 2:30am 4:00am 5.6 via Rota CO9597 11:50am 1:20pm 1,7 via Rota CO9596 7:00am 7:50am Daily 10:20am 1:20pm 2,3,4,5,6 CO9600 11:10am Daily 4:20pm Daily CO9602 2:00pm 2:50pm Daily CO9604 5:00pm 5:50pm 7:20pm Daily Daily 10:20pm Daily CO9606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 12, 2009

Narita-Saipan NW 076 10:15am 2:40pm Daily NW 077 6:25pm 1:20am+1 2.3.4.5.6.7 NW 100 8:45pm 1:10am+1 Daily

Narita-Guam

NW 74 9:45am 2:20pm Daily NW 82 10:30am 3:10pm Daily

Osaka-Saipan OZ 120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 3,5,7

Osaka-Guam

NW 80 10:30am 3:00pm Daily

Nagoya-Saipan NW 077 9:00pm 1:20am+1 Daily

Nagova-Guam

NW 24 10:00am 2:30pm Daily

Incheon-Saipan OZ 605 9:00am 2:20pm

Daily OZ 603 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ 120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 3,5,7 via Osaka OZ 603 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1,2,3,4,5,6

Busan-Saipan

OZ 607 9:00pm 2:10am+1 3,4,6,7

Shanghai-Saipan FM 843 7:15pm 1:50am+11,5

Guam-Rota

CO 9598 2:30am 3:00am 5,6

Palau-Guam CO 954 2:30am 5:25am 1.2 CO 892 2:35am 5:30am 4,6

Manila-Palau

CO 892 10:10pm 1:50am+1 3,5

Manila-Guam CO 892 10:10pm 5:30am+1 3,5 via Koror

CO 934 11:10pm 4:40am+1 Daily PR 110 10:10pm 4:00am+1 1,3,5,6,7

Manila-Nagoya NW 72 6:30am 11:05am Daily

Hongkong-Incheon OZ 724 12:30am 4:50am Daily OZ 7183 12:45am 5:05am 1,4,6

OZ 722 1:30pm 5:45pm Daily Manila-Narita

NW 2 7:45am 12:40pm Daily Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5),

ETD

ETA Frequency

Daily

Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

FRE 115

FRF 102

Airline	ETD E	TA Frequ	ency
Guam-R	ota		
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Sa			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-l		0.00	Dail
FRE 200 Rota-Gu	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-R		10.104111	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Sa			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-l			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-G		7.45	Б.:
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan- FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Dail

FRE 117 2:30pm 2:40pm FRE 119 4:00pm 4:10pm Daily FRE 121 4:40pm 4:50pm Daily FRE 123 * 5:40pm 5:50pm Daily FRE 125 * 6:00pm 6:10pm Daily Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting

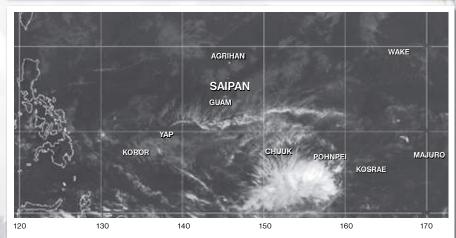
1:00pm 1:10pm

flights to Rota or Guam**

7:05am 7:15am

111111102	7.00um	7. TOUTH	Duny
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00AM, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front enters the discussion area at 25N164E and extends southwestward to southeast of Minamitori Shima at 23N159F then continues west-southwestward as a shear line to end at 20N140F. Cloudiness and patchy rain are concentrated along and northwest of the front to beyond 25N. Scattered showers are found along and up to 250 miles north of the shear line including Minamitori Shima. Converging winds southeast of the cold front are causing clouds with scattered showers northwest of Wake Island north of a line from 25N162E to 19N163E to 24N170E. A low-level trough runs northwestward from 15N138E to 23N133E. Scattered showers are seen near the trough axis south of Iwo To Island between 17N and 23N from 135E to 144E. Another low-level trough reaches northwestward from 6N132E to beyond 130E at 19N. Scattered showers associated with this feature are occurring north of Palau between 9N and 13N from 130E to 135E and just west and south of Koror within 25 miles of a line from 9N132E to 6N134E to 6N138E. A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from south of Mindanao to 4N130E to a circulation centered southwest of Pohnpei at 3N155E then turns southeastward to end at EQ158E. Scattered showers are present south of the trough axis south of Palau and Yap south of a line from 4N130E to 3N150E and along the trough axis south of Chuuk south of a line from 3N150E to 6N157E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are forming north and east of the circulation over Pohnpei within 140 miles of a line from 8N158E to EQ163E. Scattered showers are evident farther east north of Kosrae within 90 miles of a line from 7N161E to 9N170E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers south of the Marshall Islands but over Butaritari and Tarawa Atolls south of a line from 5N165E to 5N180.

Sunrise/Su **Tides** Today 6:21 AN Saipan Harbor 4:43 AM Today High Tide: 1.5 Feet Saturday 6:21 AN Sunday 6:20 AN 9:14 AM Today 1.3 Feet Low Tide: 1:26 PM Today High Tide: 1.5 Feet Monday 6:19 AM 9:39 PM Today Low Tide: 0.2 Feet Tuesday 6:19 AN

ıns	et	Moonrise/Moonset					
М	6:28 PM	Today	1:38 AM	1:01 PM			
M	6:28 PM	Saturday	2:24 AM	1:53 PM			
M	6:28 PM	Sunday	3:06 AM	2:44 PM			
M	6:28 PM	Monday	3:46 AM	3:34 PM			
M	6:28 PM	Tuesday	4:24 AM	4:24 PM			

next day's edition.

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jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.

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PICTURES

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related ■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community. ■ SAMU'T SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc. ■ TRÁVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and

private schools as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- \blacksquare Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb). ■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),
- the name of contact person, and phone number. Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12

noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition. For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

ject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

■ Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950

■ The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or re-

■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road,

■ The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

■ For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

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www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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DUE TO CONTINUED DECLINE IN KOREAN ARRIVALS

NMI faces \$65M economic impact in 2009

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority projects that the CNMI will lose over \$65 million in direct and indirect economic impact this year if the continuing downward spiral of Korean arrivals do not improve.

MVA managing director Perry Tenorio disclosed this yesterday to Saipan Tribune, saying the projection is based on only 90,000 tourists from Korea visiting the CNMI this year, compared to last year's 116,000 arrivals. It is also based on the general number of air seats available for the Korean that. We're still fortunate that Asimarket this year.

"We're looking at \$15 million plus indirect impact and over \$50 million direct effect to the CNMI if this trend continues," he said.

Tenorio said that MVA is saddened by the suspension of four flights from Seoul but added that the situation is understandable.

"Times are tough. We've seen growth in Japan but we've also seen a decrease in total arrivals from Korea. These are mainly due to the global economic crisis and the fluctuation of exchange rates...and we can understand

ana remains committed to fly in the CNMI," he said.

Last month, Tenorio said, arrivals from Korea posted a significant decline of 20 percent. reduction in air seats was also

However, Tenorio remains optimistic on Asiana's commitment to do business with the CNMI. The official said his agency is constantly communicating with the Legislature and is open to offer assistance and incentives to loyal carriers.

these improvements didn't happen from the mainland or from off-island consultants. They were done with local talent, energy and leadership. This is a day that should be celebrated by the Commonwealth," Bucking-

Buckingham reported that work continues on the other elements of the consent decree and the Commonwealth hopes the entire decree can be closed as an active case with concurrence by the U.S. Department of Justice within the next month or so. Upon case closure, the standards of the consent decree become permanent. The authority for the operation and management of the facilities will return to the Governor and his designated administrative personnel. (PR)

Months before that, a significant

noted in the market.

Last year, the CNMI terminate ed its airline incentive program

after funds were exhausted. "A constant dialogue with the Legislature is needed in order for us to help our partners become profitable. Airline is the lifeblood of the CNMI and we need to take care of them," he said.

Korea posted its fourth consecutive month of loss with 25 percent fewer arrivals compared to February last year, which has 8,305 visitors. Its air seats also dropped 14 percent.

Recently, the Korean won fell 25.7 percent against the dollar, becoming one of the world's worst performing currencies.

MVA earlier disclosed that Koreans' spending on overseas travel sharply declined due to a weaker won and the economic slump. Their spending amounted to \$12.6 billion in 2008, down 25.4 percent from the previous year.

DEQ raises red-flag on 2 Saipan beaches

The Division of Environmental directly associated with public Quality has raised the red flag on the Central Repair Shop and DPW Channel Bridge and is warning the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these two sites contained excessive concentrations of enterococci, a fecal indicator bacteria, that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environments may also contain these bacteria from the natural environment, which may not be

health concerns.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainages every Wednesday.

The Division of Environmental Quality analyzed a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha this week. Marine Water Reports are also provided at www.deq. gov.mp/section.aspx?secID=4 and http://www.cnmicoralreef. net/wq/beachcloseweeklyresults.htm. Interested individuals and organizations can also receive email notifications of the weekly marine water quality reports. To do so, send an email to environment@deq.gov.mp.

For more information, contact DEO at 664-8500. (DEO)

Consent decree progresses, nears closure

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial reviewed the Commonwealth's consent decree in a Cabinet meeting held earlier this week, asking for an update from Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Cecilia Taitano-Celes.

Celes reported that U.S. District Court Judge Alex R. Munson visited the Kagman Juvenile Detention Facility for nearly two hours Wednesday last week. Celes said the facility has made substantial improvements in the last seven months.

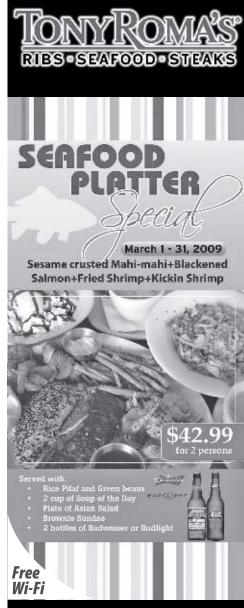
Celes said further progress is in the works with a teacher from the Public School System anticipated to begin on- site delivery of educational services within the next month. A parttime nurse will also supplement health care now being provided by paramedics at the Kagman Fire Station. An additional counselor is also anticipated for improved program services.

Celes also asked the consent decree coordinator to report on the progress. Assistant attorney general Edward Buckingham reported that the U.S. District Court has requested the parties to draft a proposed order closing the consent decree with respect to the juvenile facility.

Buckingham said he met Celes on her second day on the job.

"Secretary Celes began work as DCCA Secretary under very challenging circumstances. She worked hard to make positive changes that have moved the facility to major improvement. What is equally impressive is ham said.





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NMC ALUMNI OFFICERS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMC Alumni Association president Jesse D. Torres, left, poses with the group's other officials during a recent meeting on campus. From left are Torres, secretary Jack Kiyoshi, vice president Christopher Cabrera, and treasurer Timberly Ngewakl.



More power seen from Power Plant 1 this Sept.

Bv KRISTI EATON

REPORTER

Although currently behind a schedule presented to the Office of Insular Affairs for additional funding, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Antonio Muña says he expects to have more available power by September than originally planned.

In November, when Gov. Benigno Fitial requested \$3.8 million in federal funds to repair power plant 1, CUC provided a monthby-month timeline. At the time, power plant 1 was producing 8.5 megawatts. By the end of December 2008 the plant was expected to produce 12.5 megawatts, and increase again to 22.5 megawatts by the end of March.

Power plant 1 is only producing 8.5 to 9 megawatts right now, but Muña said the utility agency expects to bring online two more engines by the end of the month, for an additional 15 megawatts.

"Right now, as of this point in time, we have 8.5 to 9 megawatts available at engines 6 and 8. By the end of the month, we expect another 15 [megawatts] with engines 7 and 3, so that'll bring us up to about 23 and change," Muña said.

CUC has been renting emergency generators since September 2008 from Aggreko International for \$504,000 per month. It was announced earlier this month that CUC would not opt for a six-month extension to the contract; instead, Muña said he projects to have as much as 53 megawatts of power from megawatts each.

power plant 1 by September. Peak demand for the island is approximately 41 megawatts.

The revised timeline differs from the earlier OIA guide because it switches when some of the engine will undergo maintenance overhauls. The OIA timeline only expected 38.5 megawatts would be available by September. The maximum capacity for power plant 1 is 81.2 megawatts.

Each of the eight engines at power plant 1 have run at least 10,000 hours over the recommended maintenance plan. As of this month, engine 1 is in most need of an overhaul. It has run 61,019 over the advised timeframe for an overhaul. If it ran continuously for 24 hours a day, it would be nearly seven years past the recommended limit. However, the engine has been under maintenance since November 2006.

Engine 8, which recorded the lowest number of hours in excess, has run 10,276 hours, or, if ran continuously, it is more than a year overdue for a major overhaul. The engine is one of two currently operational at the power plant. The other running engine-engine 6-is 48,394 hours over the guideline. That calculates to 5.5 years.

The numbers were listed in the utility agency's stimulus grant fund application. Under funds provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, CUC is seeking \$36 million to purchase three new engines producing seven

Century Hotel turns to solar energy for its water heaters

Beginning today, the Century Hotel in Garapan will officially be using solar energy to heat its water supply for guests and staff.

Century Hotel and Triple J Motors Saipan officials will meet on the rooftop of the hotel in Garapan this morning for a brief tour, product description and formal handover of six newly installed units of Solahart solar water heaters.

Six units of dual-panel, installed last week at the Century Hotel. These units operate under the Thermosiphon Principal, which makes use of two naturally occurring phenomena for their operation; black objects absorb heat and hot water rises. It's a simple system where water is the only moving part. The solar absorbers (collector panels) are filled with water. As the sun warms the collectors, the water inside becomes hotter, expands, becomes lighter and rises upwards toward the tank. The colder, heavier water is drawn down into the bottom of the collectors, where it is heated, then moves upwards...and so on. The

circular heating motion is called the thermosiphon effect. The greater the difference in temperature between the water in the collectors and the water in the storage tank, the faster the flow between them.

These units are also closed-circuit systems, meaning local water or rainwater only flows in and out of the tank but not through the solar panels. Fresh water is pre-installed in the collectors 80-gallon tank systems were and mixed with an anti-corrosion chemical. This is the water that heats in the panels and rises up to the outside jacket of the tank, surrounding and heating the water pumped into the core of the tank. The tanks have an internal double-layer ceramic lining that is fused to a steel casing.

> This innovation is expected to save the Century Hotel the cost to heat water using CUC power.

Triple J Motors, Saipan is the authorized distributor of Solahart in the Marianas region. Solahart, an Australian company, is a subsidiary of Paloma, the largest hot water manufacturing company in the world, which includes Rheem U.S.A.(PR)





Termination of alien worker found proper

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

The Department of Labor has found proper a defunct garment factory's decision to terminate an alien worker who, in a fight with a co-worker, pretended to fall unconscious.

Labor Administrative Hearing Officer Jerry Cody concluded that Kyung Seung Saipan Inc.'s termination of Anmin Zhou's employment contract was proper.

Cody, however, determined that Kyung Seung must pay Zhou \$227.20 for work not provided during the 10-day notice period following termination.

"Although the termination was proper, the termination letter and conduct of the respondent-employer on the day of termination failed to inform [Zhou] that he was entitled to continue working for 10 days, or else, receive salary for the 10-day notice period," he said in the administrative order he issued on Tuesday.

Cody ordered Zhou to leave the CNMI at the expense of Kyung Seung no later than 30 days after Tuesday. Zhou has indicated that he does not wish to transfer to another employer in the CNMI.

The hearing officer said the bonding company, Marianas Insurance Co. Ltd., may be held liable for the wage award and repatriation ticket if the company fails to pay and deliver the plane ticket.

Labor records showed that on March 31, 2008, Zhou filed a labor complaint against his employer, alleging that the company breached his contract by wrongfully terminating him without proper grounds.

Zhou worked for Kyung Seung in its packing department. His employment contract was renewed for one year in 2007. In March 2008, Kyung Seung told its workforce that it would be permanently closing the factory on May 2, 2008.

On March 27, 2008, Zhou and a co-worker, Jin Ri, had an argument in the packing section. After a brief verbal exchange, Ri yelled and threw a T-shirt at Zhou. Ri then walked up to complainant and either slapped his face once or pushed him.

After being slapped or pushed, Zhou took off his shoes and lay on the ground for a few minutes with his eyes closed. When the supervisor told Zhou to stand up, he continued lying on the ground and told her to call the police. Management called the police, but while waiting for them to arrive, they again tried to convince him to stand up.

Zhou remained silent, lying on the ground. Thereafter, several workers carried him to the cafeteria and placed him on a table. While lying on the table, he

started to hit his head repeatedly on the table. When the ambulance arrived, the ambulance staff asked Zhou if he could get up. He then got off the table and walked into the ambulance by himself.

Zhou later claimed that after he was slapped, he fell to the floor unconscious and did not regain consciousness until he arrived at the hospital.

Cody, however, found the complainant's testimony not credible.

The general manager considered a prior warning in the complainant's work record, which "insubordination," included among other issues. The general manager decided to terminate both workers.

When Zhou reported to work on March 28, he was told to report to the management office where he was handed the termination letter.

After a brief discussion, he was escorted off the premises by company security guards. The termination letter stated that Zhou was being terminated for fighting.

Zhou then filed his complaint against the company.

Cody said the company's investigation of the fight was somewhat flawed as Zhou was never asked to give a written statement after the incident about the underlying reasons for the fight.

On the other hand, Cody said, the general manager himself observed Zhou's bizarre behavior on the day of the fight, which included pretending to be unconscious while at the same time demanding that police be called, among other things.

Such behavior, the hearing officer said, coupled with the prior record of insubordination, "could well have caused the general manager to conclude that complainant's conduct was sufficiently disruptive and insubordinate to justify termination."

With respect to the termination letter, Cody said the language of the letter is not entirely clear, stating that the worker's employment is "terminated," then stating that "this notice will be in effect 10 days from the date hereof."

Cody said nothing more is stated about the worker's right to continue working during that 10-day period.

"Given the letter, it is necessary for the employer to explain verbally to the worker his right to continue working despite the termination," he said.

Alternatively, Cody noted, an employer can elect to instruct the worker not to return to work, provided that it pays the worker for the 10-day notice period.

In this case, he said, the company presented no evidence to establish that it had explained to Zhou his right to continue working.



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2X6X12 - \$6.90	2X6X12 - \$10.70
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2X4X18 - \$5.80	2X4X18 - \$9.70
2X4X16 - \$5.10	2X4X16 - \$8.70
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TOY	OT/	SEDANS						
R08-022B	2005	ECHO 4DR	AUTO	70447	AQUA	ADH-691	7,999	
R08-019F	2005	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	41092	WHITE	ACD-346	10,799	
R08-023F	2007	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	29549	RED	ACE-780	14,999	12,9
U08-090R	2006	COROLLA 4DR	AUTO	42193	BLUE	ACJ-553	11,399	
R08-008F	2006	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	18576	BEIGE	ADN-161	15,999	
R09-004B	2004	CAMRY LE 4DR	AUTO	100808	GRAY	ACB-770	9,999	
R08-021F	2005	MATRIX BASE	AUTO	68931	RED	ACD-510	9,999	
R09-005F	2006	MATRIX BASE	AUTO	57427	SILVER	ABZ-639	10,999	
GM	CAF	RS						
R07-013F	2005	AVEO HATCHBACK	AUTO	39164	ORANGE	ADO-022	- 9,599	6,8
R07-034F	2005	OPTRA 4DR.	AUTO	14592	SILVER	ACD-020	10,999	9,4
U08-088R	2005	EPICA	AUTO	38057	BLACK	ADO-191	6,999	
LEX	US							
R08-003F	2003	LEXUS LS430	AUTO	54477	IVORY	ADU-502	29,999	23,9
ОТН	ER	CARS & TRU	JCK	S				
U07-034T	2000	NISSAN MAXIMA GXE 4DR.	AUTO	68648	WHITE	ACT-812	10,999	6,9
U09-019T	2003	MAZDA PROTÉGÉ DX 4DR	AUTO	50560	SILVER	ABZ-858	6,999	
U08-038T	2001	MITS MONTERO WGN	AUTO	93155	BEIGE	CVS-88	7,999	
GM	IAV	1						
R09-002F	2005	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	101951	WHITE	BUS-1231	9,999	
R08-017F	2003	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	117560	WHITE	BUS-1077	9,499	5,3
U08-092L	2005	EXPRESS VAN	AUTO	78403	WHITE	BUS-1201	10,999	8,9
000	RT	UTILITY						



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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.,)

CIVIL ACTION NO. 08-0322

LEONARDO P. KANI and MERTIE T. KANI, Defendants.

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on March 10, 2009, in this matter, I will sell, at public auction. 2009, in his flatter, I will self, a busine according to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendants Leonardo P. Kani and Mertie T. Kani in and to the following real properties located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 016 B 10, containing 3180 square meters, more or less,

Lot 016 B 11, containing 3950 square

both of which are part of Lot No. 663, which in

Lot 663, TD 764 (now known as Lot 016 B 10, Lot 016 B 11, and Lot 016 B 12), containing an area of 1.2 hectares, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 016 B 00 the original of which was recorded October 28, 1971 as Document No. 1285 at the Land Pacistry, Sainan

Note: Lot 016 B 12 is not included in this

Date. Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on April 10, 2009, at the hour of 3:30 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the concept with to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any daim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

<u>Warranties and Covenants.</u> All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale condition, and at its current location. In esa-will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may vite any warranty or covenant express or Neither the undersigned nor the plaintif may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other property and property thereof. any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.
a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

bildders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the properly listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids, Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence

offices of Mallman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Ian Marikita Bldg, Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such powers have submitted an advance bid. such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. <u>Disputes.</u> The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale. LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is

in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale, If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval, Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the aranting of court granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any daim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is granted.

<u>Change of Terms and Conditions.</u> The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such a before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof. and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by

DATED, this 12th day of March, 2009:

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctionee

Poll: NMC remains top choice of high school seniors

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Fifty percent of the graduating class of Marianas High School prefer to further their education at the Northern Marianas College, despite the ongoing accreditation problems of the Commonwealth's lone tertiary institution.

According to a survey of 200 senior students at the oldest and largest high school in the CNMI, half of those queried said they will continue their education at NMC this Fall 2010.

Meanwhile, roughly 65 say they will go to either the University of Guam or Guam Community College. About 37 said they will join the military after graduation, while less than 10 students want to pursue education in off-island schools.

A few individuals, for their part, admitted they will be taking a break either to work or rest after graduation from high school.

Leo Pangelinan, NMC's program manager for the College Access Challenge Project, said that NMC was a leading choice among the senior students because they are not quite ready to leave their families on the island. They also believe that NMC is a safe and comfortable place to start college.

In yesterday's "Start Smart

Senior" workshop organized by NMC and the Public School System, a handful of students said that despite the issues raised against NMC's management and operation, they still deem it as the most viable option—a "smart start"—for college education.

"For a lot of students, they choose NMC as they are not quite ready to leave the islands or their families. Many want to test the waters and they feel NMC is a safe and comfortable first [step] to take for college because it is less risky and requires lesser investment for students and their families," Pangelinan said.

Preliminary Matters

Roll Call

Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

Old Business

New Business

Administrator

Legal Counsel

access progress report

Permits and related actions: review and decide

2009-1145 Prime Pacific Properties Preliminary Plat

Update on 2008-0302 LaoLao Bay Resort shoreline

Review new rezone proposals and approve advertising

Process for updating the Zoning Board regulations and

Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting,

or if you require assistance, please contact Steve Tilley, Zoning Administra-

tor, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as

Process for hiring a new Zoning Administrator

Executive (Closed) Session - Consult with Legal Counsel

regarding pending or anticipated legal matters

amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

Resignation of current Treasurer and election of new Treasurer

Committees

Zoning Law

/s/ Henry Hofschnieder, Chairman

Reports

Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of Minutes

Communications

The same poll is scheduled all assistance that they can get. to be conducted today among more than 250 seniors from Saipan Southern High School and Kagman High School.

Pangelinan said they're expecting to generate more interest from the second batch of participants.

Fully funded by federal grants to NMC, the workshop aimed to work collaboratively with students and prepare them after graduation.

Yesterday's sessions focused on how to get students interested in college, get them excited, and brief them on the processes. They were also introduced to the possible financial education-

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on

Thursday, April 02, 2009 at 5:30 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten

Dandan Bldg., Saipan

Among the topics were "I am ready for college," "What's college like anyway?", "Applying to college: the first step," "How do I pay for college," and "Conquering financial aid forms."

This early, Pangelinan said, MHS seniors are already firm in their decisions and choices after graduation.

However, he is optimistic that more will continue to show interest in NMC, believing that seniors have yet to see the "big picture" of what the college could offer.

"We're very happy to know that many of our seniors still want to enroll at NMC. At the end of the program, we believe that more will be encouraged too," he said, adding that students made their decisions despite the "inadequate" information on what NMC can actually offer to them.

Pangelinan suspects that the event was the students' first actual interaction with the college.

Students interviewed by Saipan Tribune admitted that majority of them have already applied for college.

Randy Camacho, 18, said he's excited to become an NMC student come Fall 2010. He has applied for the criminal justice program.

"I believe NMC will open more opportunities for us so we can have better lives and better jobs. As student, what they're giving us today is a vision of the future and showing ways to find financial grants for our college. I intend to go to NMC...it's closer to home and whenever my family needs me I will be here," he said.

For 18-year-old Dajung DJ Pak, although she made the decision to join the military, she's not discounting the possibility of going to the college in the future.

"I'd like to be more independent...and help my parents with my education," she said.

DEQ raises green flag on Managaha

The Division of Environmental Quality has assigned a green flag on Managaha Island after samples collected from the location showed no excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria that exceed the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards.

DEO analyzed a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Managaha this week as part of regularly scheduled sampling.

Marine Water Reports are also provided at www.deq.gov. mp and www.cnmicoralreef.net. Interested individuals and organizations may also receive email notifications of the weekly marine water quality reports. To do so, send an e-mail to environment@deq.gov.mp.

For more information, contact DEO at 664-8500. (PR)

Dear Valued Customers:

On September 25, 2008, S.T.a.R. Marianas, Inc. ("S.T.a.R") and Jose T. Seman and Mitsuru Wakatsuki ended all of their corporate and business relationships. The President of S.T.a.R. is Hiromi Yukino. Only Hiromi Yukino has the corporate authority of S.T.a.R. to enter into contracts or resolve billing disputes.

If you have any questions please call S.T.a.R. at 235-2020.



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Beach Road, South Garapan Saipan, CNMI



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



>**⊕(нмис**'⊕

NOTICE OF SALE

LUCIA M. DELEON GUERRERO ("Trustor"), on or about May 23, 1985, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on May 23, 1985, under Document No. 85-0991 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

TRACT NUMBER 20472-6, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 907 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 2064/82, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND COMMISSION AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 14154, ON THE 26TH OF MARCH, 1982.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 24, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$85,730.00. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC an shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NOTICE OF SALE

VANESSA C. IGINOEF / VALERIO MENDIOLA CABRERA AND MARIANA ALDAN CABRERA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about June 21, 1985, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on June 26, 1985, under Document No. 85-1210 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 011 H 16, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 621 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 011 H 00, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERD WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 702, ON THE 1ST DAY OF MARCH. 1971.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 24, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$40,230.410. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KagES report card distribution today

This is to inform parents and guardians of Kagman Elementary School students that the 3rd Quarter Mid-Progress Report distribution will be held today, March 20, 2009 2-5pm in your child's (ren) respective homeroom teacher's classroom.

Parents and guardians are encouraged to make the time and meet with your child's homeroom teacher in order to be informed about your child's progress during the 3rd mid-quarter report distribution. Your parental involvement in your child's academic progress in school will also have a positive impact on his or her success during this school year 2008-2009. (*PR*)

Quarterly tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to remind all CNMI residents that the 2009 1st Quarter deadline for filing the quarterly tax returns is Thursday, April 30, 2009. The Division of Revenue and Taxation will be open from 7:30am to 4:30pm on Thursday, April 30, 2009. The office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation is located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. For more information, call 664-1000, 664-1043 Compliance Branch, or 664-1066 Collection Branch. (*PR*)

Income tax return deadline

The Division of Revenue and Taxation wishes to inform all CNMI residents that the deadline for filing of the 2008 individual Income Tax Return is Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the office of the Division of Revenue and Taxation located at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Center. Deadline hours for April 15, 2009 are

from 7:30am to 4:30pm. (PR)

Saipan Southern PTA meeting

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School: There will be a PTA meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, at 6pm in the cafeteria. (*PR*)

Marianas High School schedule

000	
March 24	No classes (Com-
	monwealth Cov-
	enant Day)
April 6-7	3 rd Quarter Final Ex-
	ams
April 8	4th Quarter begins
April 9-13	Easter break
April 27- May 1	SAT10 Tests (Grade
	9-11)
May 4-15	Advanced Place-
•	ment Exams
May 18-22	PSS SBA Tests
May 25	No classes (Memo-
•	rial Day)
June 11	Graduation Cer-
	emony

For questions and concerns, contact

End of 4th Quarter

Pre-economic summit sessions set

June 15

237-3206. (PR)

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is reminding the public of the upcoming Economic Restoration Summit, set for April 2-3, 2009. In preparation for the Summit, there will be meetings this month to gather preliminary information and ideas from the private and public sectors. The first session last March 19 focused on private sector stakeholders. The second session on March 26, 2009, will be for government officials. It will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center, from 8:30am to

12pm. The session will be broadcast through video teleconference to Rota and Tinian participants. *(PR)*

KagES sets cultural day fest

The Kagman Elementary School will be hosting its 9th Annual Cultural Day Festivities on March 28, 2009, Saturday, at the campus grounds, from 8:30am to 3pm. Everyone is welcome to attend; bring the whole family. *(PR)*

Marianas High School schedule

Mar. 24 No classes (Commonwealth Covenant Day)

For questions and concerns, contact 237-3206. (PR)

Marriage Encounter Weekend set

Help turn a good marriage into a great marriage through a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! The CNMI's next Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held on March 27-29, 2009 at the Saipan Grand Hotel. Cost is \$50 per couple.

For further information or a registration form, contact any of the following individuals:

- Jun and Linda Pangelinan, 483-4111, linpangelinan@gmail.com;
- Tony and Lynne Yarobwemal, 234-5053, tonyy822@gmail.com;
- Mark and Jenni Aguon, 287-9742, markaguon@gmail.com and apakaaguon@yahoo.com;
- John and Vicky Mafnas, 285-8454, vbmafnas@yahoo.com;

You may also contact the ecclesiastical team/executive board members

- Fr. Ike Ayuyu, 285-9324, ike@ ayuyu.us:
 - Charles and Cathy Cepeda, 483-

6435, charlesvcepeda@gmail.com or nannakit@hotmail.com. (*PR*)

World Resort offers spring break camp

Saipan World Resort will be hosting several camp programs this spring break for children and teens.

Called "Spring Break Camp Quest 2009," the camp consists of four sessions from March 23 to April 17 (Monday to Friday). It is open to boys and girls ages 5 to 12 years old and 12 to 15 years old for Junior Lifeguarding.

Camp programs include Water Park activities, trips to the Saipan Zoo, tennis lessons, swimming lessons, marine life lessons from CRMO, lifeguarding lessons, first aid lessons, field games, water games, and a scavenger hunt every end of the session.

Camp hours is from 8:30am for drop off until 4:30pm, for pick up.

Camp fees (including lunch & snacks)

- \$100/week for locals and non spaness members
- \$25/day for locals and non spaness members
- \$90/week for SWR spaness members & SWR employees
- \$20/day for SWR spaness members & SWR employees

Registrations starts now. For more details, call Saipan World Resort's Sports & Recreation Department at 234-5900 Ext nos. 350/352/358 and look for Sheilla T. Torrevillas. (PR)



PRIDE OF THE MARIANAS

AB Sanchez Shequita Bennett, the daughter of Ambrose and Lillian Bennett and a former Ms. Marianas Universe, graduated on March 6, 2009, at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, out of the 320th Training Squadron as an Honor Graduate. There were a total of 765 graduates and only 10 percent of graduates are selected as Honor Graduates. According to her recruiter, Shequita is the first female honor graduate from the Northern Mariana Islands. Shequita was also awarded the "Thunderbolt Level" award for exceptional dedication to physical fitness and esprit de corps, laying the foundation for her success in the U.S. Air Force. Shequita is now in Technical Training School at Sheppard Air Force Base, CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pets in need of homes

PAWS has numerous animals that are in need of responsible homes.

Yogy is a black retrievermix. He is about 5 years old, neutered, and last received his vaccination shots two years ago. Yogy is good with other dogs and people, and is an inside/outside dog.

Due to Yogy's background and history, his foster family is not willing to give the dog to individuals or families that tether dogs outside for prolonged periods of time or leave dogs unattended. A family adopted Yogy two years ago and tethered the dog outside, without adequate food and water. The dog suf-

fered severe health problems that nearly killed the dog.

If you are interested in adopting Yogy, and can provide Yogy with a responsible home, contact Monika at 1-671-687-4401 or monikas-gallery@hotmail.com.

Female Pup (a.k.a. No. 6) is available to a loving home. This youngster was found running on the side of the road! She is about four weeks of age, brown in color, with a dark nose. She has been to Paradise Island Animal Hospital for her first round of de-worming, but has not received her vaccinations yet due



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Female Pup, also known as No. 6.

to her young age.

If you or someone you know is able to offer this pup a respon-

sible home, and obtain future vaccination shots (and hopefully spaying—no puppies!),

Saipan welcomes USS Hampton
The USS Hampton arrived on Saipan last Tuesday for said MVA managing director Per-

com. (PR)

ZigZag, one of the luckiest ings. He is thought to be about

and children.

on Saipan last Tuesday for its first call on Saipan. The U.S. Navy submarine was welcomed upon its arrival by a contingent that included the Inatuas Cultural Dancers and Marianas Visitors Authority.

please contact Lori at thelo-

dogs on Saipan, is also avail-

able for adoption and/or foster-

ing. ZigZag was rescued from

the road after being hit by a car

and left for dead. His rescuer

kindly took ZigZag to Paradise

Island Animal Hospital for an

examination, where ZigZag un-

derwent reconstructive surgery

for his hip and back leg. He is

currently recovering at a foster

family's home, and is nearly

fully recovered and ready for

adoption. Ideally, PAWS would

like to place him in a permanent

ries@yahoo.com.

"We welcome the captain and crew of the USS *Hampton* and hope they enjoy their visit to the Northern Mariana Islands," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "I would like the servicemen of the *Hampton* to know that we appreciate your service on behalf of our country, and we wish you a restful and refreshing time in our islands."

loving home by April 1, 2009.

ZigZag is a male boonie

dog, with black and tan mark-

2-3 years of age. He is house-

trained, and excellent with cats

If you are interested in making

ZigZag your best friend, please

contact Maria at mdcowden@

gmail.com or 234-2528 for an

dogs and cats that are available

for adoption in Saipan, visit the

PAWS website at www.paws-

saipan.org or visit the blog at

www.paws-saipan.blogspot.

For more information on

interview and viewing.

MVA joined officials of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's Armed Services Committee, Commonwealth Ports Authority Seaport, and Office of Military and Veterans Affairs in welcoming the vessel. The USS *Hampton* is scheduled to be on Saipan until March 23, 2009. With a homeport of San Diego, California, the vessel can accommodate up to 12 officers and 98 crew.

The USS *Hampton* is one of 45 Los Angeles-class submarines providing the backbone of the submarine force. As an attack submarine, the vessel is designed to seek and destroy enemy submarines and surface ships; project power ashore with Tomohawk cruise missiles and special operation forces; carry out intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions and support missions; support carrier strike groups; and engage in mine warfare. (*PR*)

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on <u>Friday</u>, <u>March 27</u>, 2009 <u>beginning at 6:00 PM at the MPLT Conference Room</u>, <u>Suite #107</u>, <u>Morgen Building</u>; <u>Saipan</u>, <u>MP</u>.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I PRELIMINARIES

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of AgendaAdoption of Minutes
- II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Investment Consultant's Reports o Market Review
- o Flash Reports FEB 2009
- Board Consultant's Reports
 Financial Statements JAN/FEB 2009

II NEW BUSINESS

- HB 16-4: The CNMI Government and Public Deposit Safety Act of 2008
- Islands Business Opportunities Conference

IV EXECUTIVE SESSION

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

V MISCELLANEOUS VI ADJOURNMENT

In accordance with Public Law 8-41

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body.

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Vianney B. Hocog Chairman, Board of Trustees



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands DEPARTMENT OF LABOR Division of Labor

Second Floor Afetña Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992

PUBLIC NOTICE OF HEARING

The following Non-resident worker and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetnas Building, San Antonio Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please contact Investigator Jeffrey T. Camacho at 236-0965.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Valarie Joy Mapalo	Lillian D. Camacho	CAC#09-060-02	4/02/09 @ 1:30 pm

Failure to appear at your scheduled hearing shall be grounds for default and may result in the referral of affected worker to the Division of Immigration for their action and sanction against the employer.

Date this 9th day of March 2009.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho Director of Labor/Designee



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

For a 40-TON AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT Baggage Claim Area at the Arrival Building of the Saipan International Airport

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to procure and install a 40-Ton Air-Conditioning Unit at the Baggage Claim Area of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals should include procurement, installation and testing of the new unit as well as 1-year warranty, 1-year preventive maintenance services and 24-hour on-call services for all warranty items. Proposers are advised that the air-conditioning unit will be fully exposed to the environment including ocean spray due to the airport's proximity to the ocean. The copper coils must be coated to be weather resistant for our area.

A walk through inspection will be conducted on **Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** in order to assess the area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Attendance at this walkthrough is mandatory for any companies interested in submitting proposals. Prospective proposers will meet CPA staff at the Ports Police Central Office prior to the inspection to acquire security badges.

Inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to cpa.admin@pticom.com.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 27, 2009.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the Ports Authority to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. Executive Director/Contracting Officer Date: March 19, 2009



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport PO Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 237-6500/01 Fax: (670) 234-5962

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FOOD AND BEVERAGE CONCESSION SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting proposals from qualified firms and individuals to operate a food and beverage concession (currently the "Touch Down Cafe") at the Saipan International Terminal, Saipan International Airport. Interested firms and individuals are invited to submit proposals for food and beverage services to be offered to the public.

Proposal package may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, located at the Administrative Office of the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport during regular business hours. Proposal package is available for \$50.00. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All proposals must be received by the Authority at its Administrative Office, located at the Saipan International Airport no later than Friday, on the 3rd day of April, 2009. In evaluating proposals the Authority will consider certain factors but not limited to financial capability, related business experience, food and beverage to be offered, and staffing.

The decision on the award will be made within a reasonable time (30 to 60 days) after the closing date. The Authority reserves the right to reject any and all proposals in accordance with the Procurement Rules and Regulations of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Inquiries regarding this Request For Proposals may be addressed to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan MP 96950.

Dated this 6th day of March, 2009.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. Executive Director

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE



The Coastal Resources Management Office is hosting a forum for marine sports operators and affiliates on Wednesday, March 25, 2009

from 8AM - 4PM at the Palms Resort. Other interested marine sports enthusiasts are also welcome to attend.

The purpose of the forum is to update everyone about local and federal rules, regulations and laws that must be followed in order for marine sports operations to remain in compliance with CRM Permit condition.

Please contact CRMO at 664-8300/1 to confirm your attendance.

CRMO REGULAR BUSINESS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE FORUM SITE

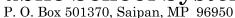
JOHN B. JOYNER, Ph.D. Director, CRMO

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 19



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Board of Education

Public School System





Invitation For Bid IFB 09-011

The Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the purchase, delivery, installation, and assembly of **Laptop Computer Systems and Accessories for Ladera International School of Saipan (LISS).** Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, NM 96950.

All bids shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "IFB 09-011" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, no later than **April 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "IFB 09-011" CONFIDENTIAL – Responsibility Determination" (one (I)-original and three (3)-copies). Any bid after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Ms. Rita B. Dela Cruz, Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: *delacruzr@pss.cnmi.mp*.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards, or to reject any or all bids, in whole or in part, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System.

All bids shall become the property of the CNMI Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D. Commissioner of Education

/S/ Rita B. Dela Cruz

tion Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer

Public Comment Period Extended to March 31, 2009 for the Mariana Islands Range Complex Draft EIS/OEIS









The U.S. Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of Palau is extending the public comment period for the Mariana Islands Range Complex Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to March 31, 2009 to allow for additional public input.

Where to get the EIS/OEIS:

Visit www.MarianasRangeComplexEIS.com to download the document or to find a library that has a copy.

Submit written comments to:

Submit comments via the online form at www.MarianasRangeComplexEIS.com or send written comments via postal mail or e-mail to:

Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100 Attn: EV2 Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134 E-mail: marianas.tap.eis@navy.mil

For more information

or to submit comments online:

visit www.MarianasRangeComplexEIS.com

All comments must be received by March 31, 2009.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education

Public School System P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



F. O. Box 501570, Salpan, MF 90950

Request for Proposal RFP 09-011

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the Procurement and Installations of Typhoon Shutters at various Head Start Centers on Saipan for the CNMI State Public School System (PSS). Detailed information on the Scope d of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3 floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-011" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **April 07**, **2009 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-011, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and five (5) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

There will a pre-bid conference for interested vendors on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the PSS or BOE Conference/Lounge Room on the 3rd for 2nd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan. All interested contractors must register at the P&S Office and a minimal fee of \$3.00 will be assessed for the plan and the Scope of Work.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: **babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp**.

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, extend the contract 2 or 3 times, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D. Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta Acting, Procurement & Supply Officer



Saipan, MP 96950.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Board of Education

Public School System P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL



The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive scaled proposals for the Survey, Architectural and Engineering Design Services for Garapan Elementary School (GES) on Saipan for the CNMI State Public School System. Detailed information on the Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill,

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 09-012" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **April 08, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.** Responsibility Determination documents shall be placed in a separate envelope marked "RFP 09-012, CONFIDENTIAL - Responsibility Determination" (one (1)-original and five (5) copies). Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstance.

There will be a pre-bid conference for interested vendors on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the PSS or BOE Conference/Lounge Room on the 3rd for 2nd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan. All interested contractors must register at the P&S Office and get an authorization for Quick Print to pay and picked-up the Scope of Work and the Plans and will be assessed for the plan and the Scope of Work

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to Mr. Juan D. Babauta, Acting Procurement & Supply Officer, via fax # (670) 664-3791. Alternatively, questions may be e-mailed to the following address: **babautajd@pss.cnmi.mp.**

Contractors are required to submit with their proposal, a copy of their valid CNMI Business License.

The Public School System reserves the right to award single or multiple awards or to reject any or all proposals, in whole or in part, and others, if to do so is in the best interest of the Public Shool System. All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Juan D. Babauta Acting, P&S Officer **20** FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Island Snapshots







SISTER-CITY ACCORD

Lui Wei Hong, third from left, Secretary General of the Guangdong International Culture Exchange Centre; Liu Wei Hong, right, Deputy Secretary General of the Guangdong International Culture Exchange Centre; and Guo Bin, second from left, of the Guangdong Tourism Institute, were recently in the CNMI for a goodwill visit and to establish sister city relations between Saipan and Gungdong. From left, Calvin Lai, Mayor's Economic Ambassador to China; Guo Bin; Lui Wei Hong; Saipan Mayor Juan Tudela; Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez; Roman Matsumoto, Saipan Mayor's economic adviser, and Liu Wei Hong. This picture was taken March 1, 2009, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Birthday greetings go out to Bing Esturas, who is celebrating her birthday today, March 20. "Don't count the years, count the blessings. Have a wonderful birthday! We love you friend. From your good friends...
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY GIRLS

Happy birthday greetings to Angelyce Alvarez-Villagomez and Alexandria Alvarez- Villagomez. Angelyce will be 5 years old on March 27, 2009, and Alexandra will be 1 year old on April 10, 2009.



Parents, teachers, and administrators of the Garapan Head Start attend a workshop on "Stress Management and Resiliency" on March 14, 2009, at the Saipan Grand Hotel's Coral Room. The workshop was presented by Melena A. Slaven, M.A., back row center, a national certified counselor and a certified rehabilitation counselor.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy birthday greetings to Auntie Mariette Bamba, who celebrated her birthday on March 14, 2009. May God bless you with everything that will make your spirit sing, your heart happy and your birthday beautiful! With Love, your nephews Joshua and John Jr. Bamba.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 9th birthday to Trini Magofna! We wish the best on your birthday and many more to come! Greetings come from your Basa family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Birthday greetings going out to Jovina Cecilia N. Pua. Happy 8th birthday and we hope that you will enjoy your day at Saipan World Resort with your loving dad, mom your brother Jesse boy and two sisters Lou and Vonie. We will always love you! Greetings come from the family.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

REGINA T. CASTRO ("Trustor"), on or about October 23, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 23, 1984, under Document No. 84-2264 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NUMBER 005 B 09, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 407 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 005 B 00, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 832, ON THE 9TH DAY OF

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 24, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$53,330.05 selaed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

JOHN ALAN C. KING AND CARLA MARIE DLC. KING (collectively "Trustor"), on or about November 08, 2002, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on December 12, 2003, under Document No. 03-2781 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 330 R 321 CONTAINING AN AREA OF 838 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 330 R 08 DATED NOVEMBER 19, 1996, COMMON-

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on December 02, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$33,230.05 sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be existed.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and nusive reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2009.

/s/ IOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

MHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency



UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

GINA K. SOMORANG / SOLEDAD K. SOMORANG AND MIGUEL O SOMORANG (collectively "Trustor"), on or about May 02, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on May 03, 1984, under Document No. 84-686 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 0051 I 548, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 885 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYE'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 2084/82. THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERAL WITHE THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOMUMENT NUMBER 14232 DATED MAY 14, 1982, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 24, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009 Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(D)(2), NOTICE IS HERBBY GIVEN that trustee win, on April 17, 2005 at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$38,130.00. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be rejected.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 **21**

Business

Fed launches bold \$1.2T effort to revive economy

the country sinking deeper into recession, the Federal Reserve launched a bold \$1.2 trillion effort Wednesday to lower rates on mortgages and other consumer debt, spur spending and revive the economy. To do so, the Fed will spend up to \$300 billion to buy long-term government bonds and an additional \$750 billion in mortgage-backed securities guaranteed by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke

WASHINGTON (AP)—With and his colleagues wrapped a two-day meeting by leaving a key short-term bank lending rate at a record low of between zero and 0.25 percent. Economists predict the Fed will hold the rate in that zone for the rest of this year and for most—if not all-of next year.

The decision to hold rates near zero was widely expected. But the Fed's plan to buy government bonds and the sheer amount— \$1.2 trillion—of the extra money to be pumped into the U.S. economy was a surprise.

"The Fed is clearly ready, willing and able to be the ATM for the credit markets," said Terry Connelly, dean of Golden Gate University's Ageno School of Business in San Francisco.

Wall Street was buoyed. The Dow Jones industrial average, which had been down earlier in the day, rose 90.88, or 1.2 percent, to 7,486.58. Broader indicators also gained.

And government bond prices soared. Heralding a coming

on the benchmark 10-year Treasion could end this year, setting

sury note dropped to 2.50 percent from 3.01 percent—the biggest daily drop in percentage points since 1981.

The dollar, meanwhile, fell against other major currencies. In part, that signaled concern that the Fed's intervention might spur inflation

over the long run.

If the credit and financial mar-

drop in mortgage rates, the yield kets can be stabilized, the reces-

the stage for a recovery next year, Bernanke has said in recent weeks. The Fed chief and his colleagues again pledged to use all available tools to make that happen, and economists expect further steps in

the months ahead.

Since the Fed last met in late January, "the economy continues

to contract," Fed policymakers observed in a statement they issued Wednesday. "Job losses, declining equity and housing wealth and tight credit conditions have weighed on consumer sentiment and spending," they said.

The Fed's announcement that it will spend up to \$300 billion over the next six months to buy long-term government bonds was something that in January it had hinted it would do. But some officials had seemed to back off from the idea in recent weeks.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Consumer prices rise 0.4 percent in February

WASHINGTON (AP)—Consumer prices rose in February by the largest amount in seven months as gasoline prices surged again and clothing costs jumped the most in nearly two decades. But the increase appeared to ease many economists' concerns about dangerous price movements in either direction. The recession is expected to dampen any inflation pressures for at least the rest of this year, while the slight uptick in prices over the last two months also has made the possibility of deflation more remote. The Labor Department reported Wednesday that consumer inflation rose 0.4 percent in February, the biggest one-month jump since a 0.7 percent rise in July. Two-thirds of last month's increase, which was slightly more than analysts expected, reflected a big jump in gasoline pump prices. Core inflation, which excludes food and energy, rose 0.2 percent in February, also slightly higher than the 0.1 percent rise economists expected.

Stocks jump after Fed says it will buy Treasurys

NEW YORK (AP)—The Federal Reserve kept Wall Street's big rally alive—and gave the Treasury market a huge boost as well. Both markets surged Wednesday after the Fed said it would pump more than \$1 trillion into the economy to help revive the housing market. The plan includes buying up to \$300 billion of long-term government bonds during the next six months. Investors expect the move to drive down borrowing costs for everything from mortgages to credit cards. The Dow Jones industrial average reversed early losses to end up 91 points and the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note plunged, indicating strong demand for the note. The dollar fell as investors worried the government's actions would eventually fan inflation.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NOTICE OF SALE

UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

IGNACIO C. CABRERA AND ANA B. CABRERA (collectively "Trustor"), on or about October 20, 1983, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on October 21, 1983, under Document No. 83-90 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 006 T 18, AND CONTAINING AN AREA OF 901 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 006 T 01. THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 18011. ON THE 7TH DAY OF SEMBER 1983

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on December 10, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$56,330.00. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be released.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2009.

/s/ IOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

MHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

AIG CEO says employees starting to return bonuses

Bernanke

WASHINGTON (AP)—Under intense pressure from the Obama administration and Congress, the head of bailed-out insurance giant AIG declared Wednesday that some of the firm's executives have begun returning all or part of bonuses totaling \$165 million. Edward Liddy offered no details, and lawmakers were in no mood to wait.

He was still fielding their ques-

tions when House Democratic advised in pungent terms to pay leaders announced plans for a vote Thursday on legislation to tax away 90 percent of the extra pay for executives at AIG and many other bailed-out firms.

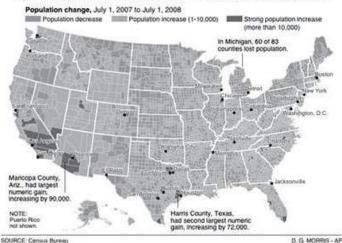
Liddy, brought in last year to oversee a company that has received \$182 billion in federal bailout funds, said he, too, was angry about the bonuses. But he did not respond directly when to the Treasury all the money handed out last weekend in "retention payments.'

"Eat it now. Take it out of your profits down the road. It's a lot sweeter now than it's gonna be later," said Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y. Liddy slid into the witness chair at a congressional hearing as President Barack Obama sought anew to quell a furor that has bedeviled his administration since word of the bonuses surfaced over the weekend.

Obama, who took office just under two months ago, told reporters his administration was not responsible for a lack of federal supervision of AIG that preceded the company's demise, nor for the decision made last year to pay what he called "outrageous bonuses."

Small population gains for most U.S. counties

More than one-third of U.S. countie experienced population declines from 2007 to 2008. The South and West accounted for 94 of the 100 counties with the fastest growth.





NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NOTICE OF SALE

UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

LORETTA K. DELEON GUERRERO ("Trustor"), on or about June 29, 1998, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on June 30, 1998, under Document No. 98-1942 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 010 K 05, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 892 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NUBMER 010 K 01 DATED AUGUST 19, 1987, COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S FILE NO. 97-2911 DATED AUGUST 19, 1987, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on November 24, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$42,330.00. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will be selected.

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

MHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

Economic woes slow US migration to Sun Belt region

WASHINGTON Strapped by the nation's economic crisis, fewer Americans are migrating to Sun Belt hot spots in Nevada, Arizona and Florida, instead staying put for now in traditional big cities.

Census data released Thursday highlight a U.S. population somewhat locked in place by the severe housing downturn and economic recession, even before the impact of rippling job layoffs after last September's financial meltdown.

The population figures as of July 2008 show growth slowdowns in once-booming met-

ropolitan areas such as Atlanta, Las Vegas, Phoenix and Tampa, due mostly to a rapid clip of mortgage foreclosures as well as frozen lines of credit that made it harder for out-of-staters to move in.

As a result, rust-belt metro areas such as Buffalo, N.Y., Pittsburgh and Cleveland stanched some population losses, and Boston, Los Angeles and New York saw gains. Well-to-do exurbs around Washington D.C. saw growth slowdowns as people weary of costly commutes moved closer to federal jobs in the nation's capital.



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION



NOTICE OF SALE

UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

VINCENT N. ITAMAN / ROSA L. TAMAN / VINCENTE E. TAMAN (collectively "Trustor"), on or about April 27, 1984, gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Office ("USDA"), formerly known as Farmers Home Administration, United States of America ("FmHA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on April 27, 1984, under Document No. 84-659 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the USDA. Rural Development Office.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sate affect the property hereafter described

LOT NUMBER 005 I 531, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 745 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS SHOWN ON THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEY'S OFFICIAL CADASTRAL PLAT NUMBER 2084/82, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS REGISTERED WITH THE LAND REGISTRY AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 14232 DATED MAY 14, 1982, THE DESCRIPTION THEREIN BEING INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default, Trustee issued its Notice of Default and served to Trustor on December 10, 2008. More than thirty (30) days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, Pursuant to 2 CMC § 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Trustee win, on April 17, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., at the office of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, Garapan, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950, under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$32,530.00. Sealed bids win be opened at the auction and those present will be given the opportunity to submit an additional bid, thereby, outbidding the highest sealed bid amount received by NMHC and opened on the date of the auction.

Sealed bids must be addressed to Ms. Merced M. Tomokane, Chairwoman of the Board, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 and must also be received no later than April 16, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. All bids received from outside the Commonwealth must be received no later than April 16, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Untimely sealed bids will

The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property under the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check to NMHC and shall be paid within 72 hours from time of sale.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to teal property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Dated this 16th day of March, 2009.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO Corporate Director, NMHC

MHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency

22 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

US births break record; 40 pct out-of-wedlock

ATLANTA (AP)—Remember the baby boom? No, not the one after World War II. More babies were born in the United States in 2007 than any other year in the nation's history—and a wedding band made increasingly little difference in the matter. The 4,317,119 births, reported by federal researchers Wednesday, topped a record first set in 1957 at the height of the baby boom.

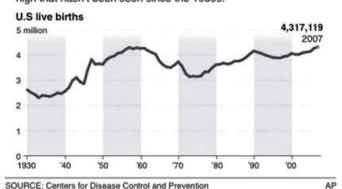
Behind the number is both good and bad news. While it shows the U.S. population is more than replacing itself, a healthy trend, the teen birth rate was up for a second year in a row.

The birth rate rose slightly for women of all ages, and births to unwed mothers reached an all-time high of about 40 percent, continuing a trend that started years ago. More than three-quarters of these women were 20 or older.

For a variety of reasons, it's become more acceptable for women to have babies without a husband, said Duke University's S. Philip Morgan, a leading fertility researcher.

Births reach a record high

The U.S. is experiencing a baby boomlet, reaching a record high that hasn't been seen since the 1950s.



Even happy couples may be living together without getting married, experts say. And more women—especially those in their 30s and 40s—are choosing to have children despite their single status.

The new numbers suggest the second year of a baby boomlet, with U.S. fertility rates higher in every racial group, the highest among Hispanic women. On average, a U.S. woman has 2.1 babies in her lifetime. That's the "magic number" required for a population to replace itself.

Countries with much lower rates—such as Japan and Italy—face future labor shortages and eroding tax bases as they fail to reproduce enough to take care of their aging elders.

While the number of births in the U.S. reached nearly 4.3 million in 2006, mainly due to a larger population, especially a growing number of Hispanics, it's not clear the boomlet will last. Some experts think birth rates are already declining because of the economic recession that began in late 2007.

Obama plays populist, anti-D.C. role in Calif.

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP)—In Washington, President Barack Obama is the ultimate insider, hosting White House parties to woo lawmakers and diplomats. Elsewhere, he increasingly plays the embattled and populist crusader, helping average Americans fight entrenched interests on Capitol Hill and Wall Street.

On Wednesday, Obama donned that cloak in Southern California, where he said the weather and conversations are much nicer than in Washington. The conversation was more one-sided, to be sure, as he stood be-

fore 1,300 frequently cheering people, 2,500 miles from the Capitol's shadow.

He defended his ambitious plan to overhaul health care, energy, education, taxes and spending policies in the coming months, against unnamed forces aligned against him.

"I know some folks in Washington and on Wall Street are saying we should focus on only one problem at a time: 'our problem,'" Obama said. "But that's just not the way it works."

"You don't get to choose between paying your mortgage bills or your medical bills," he told the crowd in a hot auditorium. The government, too, must tackle multiple challenges at once, he said.

Obama spoke for 21 minutes, then took eight questions. The first: Will he seek re-election in 2012?

"If I could get done what I think needs to get done in four years, even if it meant that I was only president for four years, I would rather be a good president—to take on the tough issues for four years—than a mediocre president for eight years," Obama said.

Attorney general signals shift in marijuana policy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attorney General Eric Holder signaled a change on medical marijuana policy Wednesday, saying federal agents will target marijuana distributors only when they violate both federal and state law.

That would be a departure from the policy of the Bush administration, which targeted medical marijuana dispensaries in California even if they complied with that state's law.

"The policy is to go after those people who violate both federal and state law," Holder said in a question-and-answer session with reporters at the Justice Department.

Medical marijuana advocates in California welcomed the news, but said they still worried about the pending cases of those already in court on drug charges.

California law permits the sale of marijuana for medical purposes, though it still is against federal law.

Holder did not spell out exactly who no longer would face the prospect of raids by the Drug Enforcement Administration. But he was quick to add that law enforcement officers will target anyone who tries to "use medical marijuana laws as a shield" for other illegal activity.

"Given the limited resources that we have, our focus will be on people, organizations that are growing, cultivating substantial amounts of marijuana and doing so in a way that's inconsistent with federal and state law," the attorney general said.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW09-IFB-008

Supply, Delivery and Installation of Collateral Equipment for the Rota Health Center - A, B and C.

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the *Supply, Delivery and Installation of Collateral Equipment for the Rota Health Center,* Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after March 20, 2009 at DPW Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (US\$150.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Ser-vices Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. **Preference is available to US Citizens as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.**

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on April 08, 2009, 2:00 p.m. local time at the Rota Mayor's Office, Conference Room. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on April 15, 2009 to Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division, Oleai Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW09-IFB-008". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 17, 2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 17, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com.

For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 17, 2009, and must be received no later than April 28, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, May 4, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on April 22. 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other sure acceptable to the Attorney General. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

This project funding derived from CNMI Public Law 12-64 § 5(a), and Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution (RLDR) 13-2D.4 and RLDR 13-4, FY 1996-2002.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred and Twenty (120) calendar days after established Notice to Proceed date. However, if a Contractor is awarded two (2) different packages, performance time shall be completed within One Hundred and Eighty (180) calendar days issuance of Notice to Proceed date. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (US\$ 100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai

Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW09-IFB-010



SUPPLY, DELIVERY, AND INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING FOR THE CAPITOL HILL

BASEBALLFIELD, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Supply, Delivery, and Installation of Additional Outdoor Lighting for the Capitol Hill Baseball Field, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after March 13, 2009 at DPW Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan. A non-refundable payment of one Hundred Dollars (**US\$100.00**) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Bidding procuredures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per <u>Public law 15-95 and as further **Amended by Public Law 15-118** and must be submitted with the BID if preference is claimed.</u>

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on March 31, 2009, I:00 p.m. local time at the project site located at Capitol Hill Baseball Field, Saipan. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on April 09, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW09-IFB-010". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 03,2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time April 03, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 03, 2009, and must be received no later than April 20, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 1:00 p.m. local time, April 23, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 1:00 p.m. local time, on April 13, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **(\$25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must authorized to conduct business in CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at one hundred dollars (US\$100.00) per working days for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG Secretary of Public Works /s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 **23** SAIPAN TRIBUNE



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN, MP 96950-1055 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-09 **DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES**

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Design and Replacement of the Saipan International Airport's Public Address System on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails design, supply and installation of a complete public address (PA) system at the entire international terminal of the Saipan International Airport. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, March 6, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. Only proposers that responded to the "Request for Interest" and attended the pre-proposal conference of February 27, 2009 will be eligible to submit proposals.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Public Address System Replacement – Design/Build Services". One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2009, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

The offerer shall submit with their proposal the following

- Letter of interest; Design and Installation Timeline
- Project Approach; D-B Construction Team;
- Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
 Available resources to accomplish the project;
 Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
 Valid CNMI Business License.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams. Project approach, timeline and cost must be within the parameters of the established Statement of Work (SOW). Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 3.6. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

 Total cost for design and installation
 D-B Installation time frame (Critical and must be submitted with the Request for Proposal Package. The work days are calendar days.)
 Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff
 Experience of the firm on similar or related projects 30%

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Award of a contract is contingent upon prior approval from FAA. Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports

The contract period for design and replacement will be based on the contractor's proposal. However, liquidated damages of \$500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without

excuse.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 9, 2009



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/01 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT **GENERATOR PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE** AND OPERATION SERVICES PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-006-09

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for Preventive Maintenance and Operation Services of the Saipan International Airport's Backup Generator System on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing preventive maintenance services and operation of its two (2) 1.8 megawatt Caterpillar generators and ASCO controls at the Saipan International Airport. The detailed scope of work will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Friday, March 6, 2009. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Saipan International Airport Generator Preventive Maintenance and Operation Services". One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2009, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MR. EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: March 3, 2009

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana **Ofisinan I Gubietno** Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTISIAN MAPROPONE POT ATKILON TÅNO' PUPBLIKU

Kinonsiste ni Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, I Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku man nånå'i' notisia pot I intension na para u ma'atkila I tano' pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana. Maseha håyi na petsona gi pupbliku heneråt siña muna halom opinion, infotmasion, kinontran testimonio pot para u kuentåyi I propositun I Kontråtan Atkilon. Ni maprobeniyi mås ginen I Lai Pupbliku 15-2, manisisita para u mapupblika I man impotånte na infotmasion gi sigente:

- I tano' pupbliku ni ma'atkila madeskribi kumo Sitio Numiro 190 E 01 a konsisiste kåsi 4,809 square meters menos osino mås, ni gaige gi Lower Base giya Saipan. Kopian I lugåt I sitio gaige gi Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku para
- I para u atkila I Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., un koporasion giya CNMI. I Direktot I Kuetpon I koporasion I man sigente: si Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, yan si Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.
 - I presidente I koporasion si Liberato C. Legaspi. I segundon I presidete si Marie Christine T. Legaspi. I sekretårio si Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi. I tresurerun si Aleio C. Legaspi.
- Si Siñot Liberato C. Legaspi yan si Siñot Noel Masongsong a negosio I kontråta para I mapropone na atkilon.
- I para u fanatkila debi u na'setbi i tano' solamenti para u na'guaha' fasilidat para muna'hanao katga siha.
- I tiempon I mapropositu na Kontråtan Atkilon bente-singko åños (25 yrs.), gai' chånsa para u ekstiende para talo kinse åños (15 yrs.).

I mapropositu na åpas atkilon gi sakkan durånten I tiempo sigun I mapega na presiu pot I baliña I lugåt.

- I kabåles na kopian I Kontråtan Atkilon siña u machule' gi Ofisinan I Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku, ni gaige gi mina dos na bibienda gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, giya Saipan, mina dos bibienda gi Bank of Saipan Commercial Building giya Luta, fine'nina na bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building giya Tinian.
- Ti maresibe' ottro na klåsen propositu ni I Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku ni para u ma'atkila I tano' giya Lower
- I Sekritårio gi Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku siempre a aksepta tinige' opinion, mensåhen kinontra yan testimonio osino ottro siha na propositu ginen I man enteresao na petsona gi pat åntes di Matso 23, 2009 gi Ofisinan I Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku ni gaige giya Saipan, Tinian yan Luta.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer rebwe isisilong ischil mángámangiir, aweewe, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap. Me bwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal aweewe kka rebwe mweiti ngali milikka ebwe akkatééló.

- Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap ekke bwáári Lot No.190 E 01, eyoor faawu sangaras walabwughúw tiwoow (4,809 square meters), elap me ngáre eghús, elo Lower Base, Seipél. Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor llól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngare óubwe ghuley fischiy.
- Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., CNMI corporation. Schóóy mwiisch mellol Corporation nge Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, me Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

Schóóy assamwool nge Liberato C. Legaspi, Vice President nge Marie Christine T. Legaspi, sekkretario nge Alejo C. Legaspi, treasurer nge Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi.

- Schóól aweweel akkilon nge Mr. Liberato C. Legaspi me Mr. Noel C. Masongsong.
- Schóóy akkilon ebwe yááli bwuley reel leliyel ammwelil kkaragha schagh.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon ebwe ruweigh me limwoow ráágh (25 years), emmwel rebwe sóbweey ngáli bwal seigh me limwoow ráágh (15 years).

Pomwol akkilon ebwe mwir sángi llapal méél falúw (value of the property) fengal me milikka re ayuuw mellol faluw

- Emmwel óubwe bwughil tilighial akkilon mellól bwulasiyool ammwelil falúweer toulap, elo aruwowal pwó(2nd $floor)\ me\ Joeten\ Dandan\ Commercial\ Building\ ll\'ol\ Dandan\ ,\ Seip\'el;\ aruwowal\ pw\'o\ (2nd\ floor)\ mell\'ol\ Bank\ of\ Saipan$ Commercial Buiding, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.
- Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo akkááw pomwol akkilon yeel me Lower Base,

Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ebwe bwughil aweewe kkaal, aingiingil, mereer amweyút aramas mmwal schagh Mááilap (March) 23, 2009 mellól Depattamentool Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap ive elo Seipél. Luuta me Tchúlúvól.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public lands in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published

- $The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot No.\ 190 E\ 01, containing an area of approximately\ 4,809\ square$ meters, more or less, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- iii. The prospective lessee is Cargo Express (Saipan), Inc., a CNMI corporation. The board of directors of the corporation are Liberato C. Legaspi, Marie Christine T. Legaspi, Alejo C. Legaspi, and Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi

The President of the corporation is Liberato C. Legaspi. The vice president is Marie Christine T. Legaspi. The secretary is Lawrence Lemuel T. Legaspi. The Treasurer is Alejo C. Legaspi.

- The proposed lease was negotiated by Mr. Liberato C. Legaspi and Mr. Noel C. Masongsong.
- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of developing and operating a freight forwarding facility.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years, with an option to extend the lease for an additional 15 years,

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property including existing structures.

- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; the 2nd floor of the Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base,
- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before March 23, 2009 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in

24 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

China may up patrols amid **South China Sea disputes**

BEIJING (AP)—China plans to boost patrols in the South China Sea to deal with the growing threat of illegal fishing and sharpening territorial disputes, a Chinese official was quoted as saying by state media Thursday.

The report in the China Daily newspaper follows China's dispatch last week of a converted naval vessel to patrol fishing grounds surrounding the disputed Paracel Islands, about 400 miles (640 kilometers) south of Hong Kong.

Fisheries department director Wu Zhuang was quoted as saying that additional patrols were needed to handle new "challenges and complications" in overseeing the 1.16 million square miles (3 million square

kilometers) of ocean China claims in the South China Sea.

"Faced with a growing amount of illegal fishing and other countries' unfounded territorial claims of islands ... it has become necessary to step up the fishery administration's patrols to protect China's rights and interests," Wu said.

Last week's dispatch of the converted naval vessel China Yuzheng 311 was given unusually heavy coverage in Chinese media, an apparent high-profile response to reassertions of sovereignty claims to islands in the area by the Philippines and Malaysia, two of the six nations that say all or some of the South China Sea archipelagos belong to them.

That also followed a con-

frontation between a U.S. Navy survey vessel and Chinese boats earlier this month about 75 miles (120 miles) off China's southern island province of Hainan, in which the U.S. boat said it was harassed, threatened, and its way blocked by a pair of Chineseflagged fishing trawlers.

The sides traded diplomatic protests over the scrape, with the U.S. saying it was within its rights and China claiming the American boat was operating illegally within its exclusive economic zone.

Wu was quoted as saying that additional boats would be added to the fisheries administration fleet, possibly including converted naval vessels as well as newly built vessels.

Filipino troops to pull back, hostages threatened

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Philippine troops agreed to pull back Thursday from a jungle stronghold of al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf extremists in exchange for a pledge by the militants to free one of three Red Cross hostages, officials said.

The move comes after Abu Sayyaf commander Albader Parad threatened to behead the Swiss, Italian and Filipino Red Cross workers he had been holding for more than two months if the military launched a new at-

tack on his group near Indanan township on southern Jolo Island, Sen. Richard Gordon said.

"He told me he'll behead one of the hostages if the new fighting erupts," said Gordon, head of the local Red Cross. "If the military will carry out an assault, he'll kill all of them."

Gordon said he convinced Parad in a mobile phone call late Wednesday to promise to release one of the hostages if troops pull back from an Abu Sayyaf stronghold that has been

surrounded by marines and armed village guards for weeks.

"We will reposition our troops as necessary to allow the exhaustion of other peaceful means for the safe release of the victims," military spokesman Lt. Col. Ernesto Torres said in a statement.

He said the safety of the International Committee of the Red Cross workers-Swiss Andreas Notter, Filipino Mary Jean Lacaba and Italian Eugenio Vagni—"remains the paramount concern."

UN worried for American abducted in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The United Nations said Wednesday it is very concerned about the health of an American official from its refugee agency who was kidnapped in Pakistan and said it is working to win his release.

After shooting to death his driver, armed men seized John Solecki on Feb. 2 as he drove to work in the western city of Ouetta.

A previously unknown group has claimed responsibility and threatened to kill him unless the government releases hundreds of people allegedly detained by security forces.

The group's name suggests they are ethnic nationalists from the surrounding province of Baluchistan, where a low-level insurgency has continued for years. Quetta is also reputedly a hub for Taliban militants fighting in neighboring Afghanistan.

A spokesman for the group reportedly told a Pakistani news agency Monday that Solecki was suffering from a cardiac problem.

The U.N. said it was "very concerned about the apparent deterioration of John's health" and that his well-being was his captors' responsibility.

The world body is willing to speak directly to those holding him to find a "safe way" to secure his release, it said in a statement.

Solecki is one of a string of foreigners kidnapped in Pakistan's border regions in recent months.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japan mulling more sanctions against North Korea

TOKYO (AP)—Japan could impose more sanctions on North Korea if it goes ahead with a planned rocket launch next month, regardless of its payload, and plans to raise the issue with the U.N. Security Council, government officials said Thursday. "We will make a comprehensive decision, including the possibility of imposing tougher sanctions," Prime Minister Taro Aso told a parliamentary committee. He was responding to growing calls from lawmakers in his ruling Liberal Democratic Party to punish the North if it goes ahead with the launch, scheduled for between April 4-8. North Korea says it intends to launch a rocket to put a telecommunications satellite into orbit, but many fear it could be used to test ballistic missile technology and have demanded it be stopped. The North is barred by U.N. sanctions from testing ballistic missiles.

US: Taiwan-China ties don't threaten us

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Rapidly growing ties between China and Taiwan are very much in the interest of the United States and do not undercut the American strategic posture in the western Pacific, the top U.S official dealing with Taipei said Wednesday. The comments by Chairman Raymond Burghardt of the American Institute in Taiwan come amid suggestions that the rapid improvement in relations between Taipei and Beijing can undercut Taiwan's usefulness as part of an anti-China defensive perimeter that also includes mainland Japan and Okinawa. Burghardt, a veteran U.S. diplomat who has also served as ambassador to Vietnam, said that interpretation had no role in American policy. "I have never heard it in a policy discussion, and I have never seen it in a policy document," he said.

World



A figure depicting death, carries a sign reading "Disaster-child protection in Austria" stands in front of the court in St. Poelten, Austria, Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

Incest father pleads guilty to charges, faces life

ST. POELTEN, Austria homicide, and said his change (AP)—Josef Fritzl abruptly pleaded guilty to all of the charges against him Wednesday—a surprising twist amid disclosures that the daughter he imprisoned for 24 years in a dungeon where she bore him seven children secretly sat in on the trial.

Adding intrigue to a case that has drawn worldwide attention, Fritzl calmly acknowledged his guilt, including to of heart came after hearing his daughter's heart-wrenching videotaped testimony.

"I declare myself guilty to the charges in the indictment," Fritzl, 73, told a panel of judges, referring to what he called "mv sick behavior."

Fritzl was charged with negligent homicide in the death of an infant boy as well as enslavement, rape, incest, forced imprisonment and coercion. Initially he pleaded guilty to incest and forced imprisonment. and partially guilty to rape and coercion. The change means he could face up to life in prison for the homicide charge.

Legal experts say the eightmember jury will still have to deliver verdicts despite Fritzl's guilty pleas, although his confessions could be grounds for a lesser sentence. Verdicts and sentences were expected Thursday after closing statements.

Israel arrests at least 7 Hamas political leaders

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—Israeli soldiers rounded up at least seven of the Islamic militant group's political leaders in the West Bank in a pre-dawn arrest sweep Thursday, Hamas officials and relatives said.

The detentions come after the failure of recent efforts to win the release of an Israeli soldier

Hamas is holding in Gaza.

The Israeli military, which routinely arrests suspected militants in the West Bank, said 20 Palestinians had been detained overnight. But it said it had no information on the arrests of the Hamas politicians.

Israel has detained dozens of Hamas politicians in the West Bank on various occasions

since the capture of Sgt. Gilad Schalit, 22, in a cross-border raid in June 2006.

The detainees in this latest raid include Nasser Shaer, a former Palestinian deputy prime minister, and several Hamas lawmakers. Hamas officials and relatives said. Some of them were detained and released in past raids.

WORLD BRIEFS

UN: 2 piracy networks operating in Somalia

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Two main piracy networks are operating in fishing communities on Somalia's coast, holding ships for millions of dollars in ransom despite increased international anti-piracy efforts, Secretary-General Ban Kimoon said Wednesday. The networks are based in the breakaway northeastern region of Puntland, where the most important pirate group is located in Eyl district, and in the central Mudug region, where pirates operate mainly from the fishing village of Xarardheere, he said. "It is widely acknowledged that some of these groups now rival established Somali authorities in terms of their military capabilities and resource," Ban said.

Report: German school shooter called killing fun

BERLIN (AP)—A man held hostage by a teenager on a shooting spree said in an interview published Wednesday that the boy described killing 12 people at his former high school as "fun" and wanted to attack a second school. Igor Wolf, 41, told the Stern weekly that Tim Kretschmer jumped into the back seat of his car after fleeing the school, put a gun to Wolf's head and forced him to drive away at high speed. Wolf said he asked Kretschmer, 17, why he had killed people at the school. "He answered very loudly: 'for fun - because it's fun," Wolf told Stern. Kretschmer also asked: "do you think we can find another school?" according to Wolf, who said he distracted Kretschmer by changing the subject.

Drunken mayhem mars St. Patrick's in Ireland

DUBLIN (AP)—Cars were torched, firefighters attacked and police bombarded in mayhem spawned by dusk-to-dawn drinking on St. Patrick's Day, Irish authorities said Wednesday. Authorities were still assessing the damage from inebriated revelers who turned some districts of Dublin and Belfast into nightmares. Police in the Republic of Ireland said they were counting the number of public-order arrests from Tuesday's festivities, and the total would easily exceed 200, typical for recent years. Police in Northern Ireland clashed with some of the British territory's most privileged youth—hundreds of students at Queen's University, the major college in Belfast—in what authorities called the worst public drinking-related confrontation of any recent St. Patrick's Day.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 **25**

Off The Wall

Gay marriage gets recognition—in the dictionary

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Same-sex marriage might not be recognized in most states, but it is in the dictionary.

Merriam-Webster included a secondary definition of marriage to recognize same-sex relationships several years before gay couples were allowed to tie the knot anywhere in the United States, but the change had gone largely unnoticed until the conservative World Net Daily news site reported it Tuesday.

"One of the nation's most

prominent dictionary companies has resolved the argument over whether the term 'marriage' should apply to same-sex duos or be reserved for the institution that has held families together for millennia: by simply writing a new definition," World Net wrote in an online story published Tuesday.

In its Web and print editions, Merriam-Webster defines marriage as "the state of being united to a person of the opposite sex as husband or wife in a consensual and contractual relationship recognized by law."

But in a nod to evolving ideas of love and English usage, the Springfield, Mass.-based company in 2003 added a secondary meaning for "marriage" as "the state of being united to a person of the same sex in a relationship like that of a traditional marriage."

Merriam-Webster said in a statement Wednesday that the edited entry merely reflected the frequency with which the term "same-sex marriage" had

popped up in print and become part of the general lexicon.

"Its inclusion was a simple matter of providing dictionary users with accurate information about all of the word's current uses," the company said, adding that it was surprised by the recent attention because it was "neither news nor unusual."

'We were one of the last ones among the major dictionary publishers to do this," said Merriam-Webster spokesman Arthur Bicknell.

Boston-based Houghton-Mifflin, publisher of the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, modified its definition of marriage in 2000, adding a fourth example to the entry: "A union between two persons having the customary but usually not the legal force of marriage: a same-sex marriage."

The Oxford English Dictionary this month added in a draft version that the term sometimes refers to "long-term relationships between partners of the same

sex." Its editors also have proposed updating the primary sense of the word to mean "the condition of being a husband or wife; the relation between persons married to each other; matrimony."

The dictionary's main entry for marriage, last updated in 1989, reads, "The condition of being a husband or wife; the relation between married persons; spousehood, wedlock.'

Only two states in the country legally recognize gay marriage: Connecticut and Massachusetts.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Woman allegedly punches, bites her son's principal

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)— A Rhode Island woman faces charges after allegedly punching and biting her 11-year-old son's school principal after being told the boy was being suspended. Police said 30-year-old Aleyda Uceta also bit an officer trying to arrest her after Friday's incident at Roger Williams Middle School in Providence. She was charged with assault on school officials, assault on police officers and resisting arrest.

Principal Rudolph Moseley Jr. was allegedly assaulted after he told Uceta that her son would be suspended for three days for refusing to go to a room for misbehaving students. Police said Uceta punched Moseley in the face and bit his left arm.

California town to spray-paint lawn bald spots

PERRIS, Calif. (AP)—A town is going green to combat foreclosure blight: A contractor has been hired to spray-paint lawn bald spots. Perris spokesman Joe Vargo said contractor Dave Milligan uses an environmentally friendly dye that lasts up to six months and is harmless to people and pets. The city hopes the foreclosed properties are purchased and occupied before the lawn needs a touchup. It costs about \$550 to spray-paint a lawn. The city, some 70 miles southeast of Los Angeles, has set aside \$2 million in an effort to stabilize foreclosure-fraught neighborhoods.

Inmate complains of pain and makes

daring escape

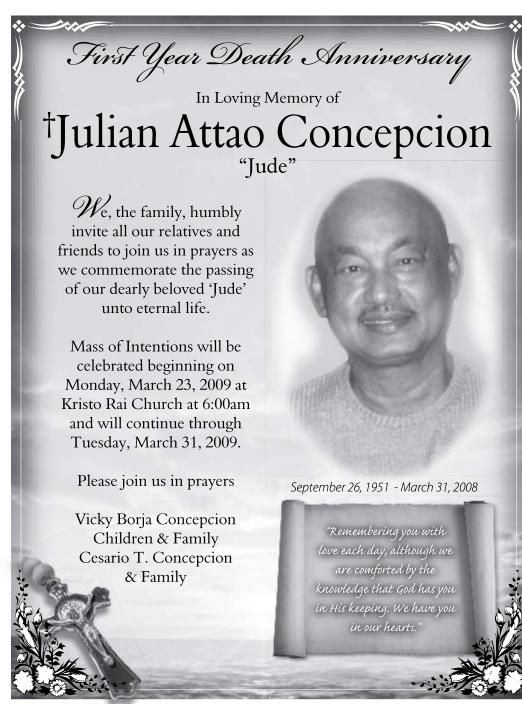
ST. LOUIS (AP)—An inmate who complained about chest pain made a daring escape from authorities from a hospital in St. Charles. Lincoln County spokesman Andy Binder said a 24-year-old man was being transported to jail in Lincoln County when he complained of chest pains on Monday. He was taken to a St. Charles hospital to be checked out. Binder said the inmate was shackled at his hospital bed when his girlfriend caused a distraction in the hallway Tuesday night. When a cor-

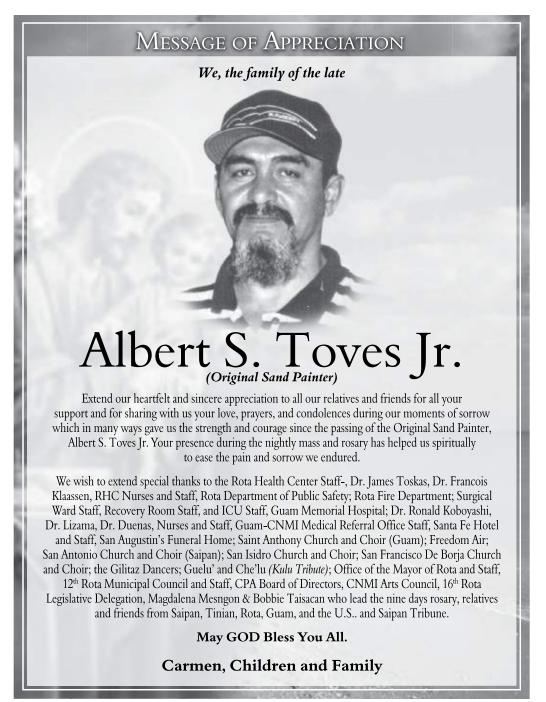
rections officer left the hospital room to talk to her, the man ripped his shackles off the post, locked himself in the bathroom, and managed to escape. He's still on the run.

Jurors mull woman's urination discrimination claim

NORFOLK, Va. (AP)—Jurors in Norfolk are deliberating the discrimination case of a female dock worker who was punished by her union for urinating on the job when a male co-worker who also relieved himself wasn't.

The U.S. District Court jury began deliberations Wednesday in the case of Sonyo Tillett-Bond, who was told to go home after the Oct. 5, 2006, incident at the Portsmouth port. The 48-yearold woman is seeking damages totaling \$300,000 from the International Longshoremen's Association Local 1458. Her supervisor sent Tillett-Bond home after he heard of the urination incident because of fears of sexual harassment. While she was eventually reinstated by the union, her male co-worker was not punished.





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Science & Technology

Made-to-order magazine lets readers choose

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Time tomizable as the magazine car-Inc. is experimenting with a customized magazine that combines reader-selected sections from eight publications as it tries to mimic in printed form the personalized news feeds that have become popular on the Internet.

Called "mine," the five-issue, 10-week experiment also aligns readers with the branding message that its sole advertising partner, Toyota Motor Corp., has for its new Lexus 2010 RX sport utility vehicle: It's as cusrying its ads.

The magazine is free, but the print edition is limited to the first 31,000 respondents, while an online version is available for another 200,000.

Sign-ups are available immediately at http://www. timeinc.com/mine, with the first issue to be shipped in the mail in early April, and then once every two weeks. Online subscribers will get digital editions that look just like the

printed version, but in a special format that allows virtual page turns with clicks. A promotional push for the magazine kicks off Friday.

Readers can select five titles from eight published by subsidiaries of Time Warner Inc. and American Express Co.: Time, Sports Illustrated, Food & Wine, Real Simple, Money, In Style, Golf, and Travel + Leisure.

Editors will pre-select the stories that make it into every biweekly issue, and readers won't have the option of nations in all (the Lexus SUV online survey will also find that changing the picks from issue to issue.

has 22 customizable settings, plus eight options handled by There are 56 editorial combiated a dealer). Those who fill out an per-targeting.

advertisements fit their personal circumstances in a form of hy-

Review: How an iPod can be a poor man's iPhone



In this Sept. 11, 2008 file photo, a shopper looks at two new second generation Apple iPod Touches at an Apple store in Palo Alto, Calif.

Novels join online library of documents at Scribd SAN FRANCISCO (AP) loaded everything from school essays to PowerPoint presen-Scribd Inc. is opening a new chapter by adding hundreds of tations on Scribd. Traditional books to its rapidly growing Web

site for sharing documents. Random House and Simon & Schuster are among the longestablished book publishers embracing Scribd as a new distribu-

tion and promotional channel. The partnerships being announced Wednesday will expand the eclectic mix of written material that has turned Scribd—pronounced "scribbed" as in scribbled—into one of the Internet's hottest destinations just two years after it started.

Millions of people have up-

media such as The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and Fox Business News also regularly post copies of memos and other material collected during their reporting so they can more easily share the information with their online audiences.

"There is something for everyone on Scribd," said Trip Adler, the 22-employee startup's chief executive and co-founder.

The Scribd alliance is just the latest example of the different ways book publishers are trying to boost sales by branching out to the Internet and other electronic delivery systems such as Amazon.com Inc.'s Kindle.

Publishers have been using Amazon and Google Inc. for several years to display digital copies of books—usually as excerpts but sometimes in their entirety.

Scribd could prove to be an even better way to create a buzz about new books or promising but little-known authors because the material on its site can be easily embedded elsewhere, including online hangouts such as Facebook and MySpace where people often recommend music, movies and books.

NEW YORK (AP)—I try to keep a stiff upper lip about not having an iPhone. Just couldn't afford it—not with the \$75 a month or so AT&T charges for service on top of the \$199 up-

front cost for the device.

I could, however, afford the \$229 iPod Touch—and got it as a gift, as it happened. It has most of the same goodies: a Web browser, e-mail, YouTube. And it stores way more music than the iPhone. (Ha!)

Plus, the other day I used it to call China.

Yup, a call around the world on a device that doesn't have a phone. A handful of applications on Apple Inc.'s iTunes store will let you do this, as long as you're in a Wi-Fi hot spot.

My iPhone complex hasn't disappeared, but at least now I have a device that looks just like it, has no monthly service fees, and lets me make free or cheap phone calls.

The best part of these applications—which require the second-generation iPod Touch that came out last year—is that they are free to download, and calls to other people using the same app won't cost you anything.

Two of the services I've

tried, Truphone and Fring, will also let you make free calls to Google Talk users and type instant messages to friends online. Both automatically queue up a list of buddies from different services you might have, including Gmail chat, AIM and MSN Messenger, once you log in.

But it's Truphone's pay feature that puts it ahead of the others. TruPhone charges you to make calls to landlines or regular cell phones, but generally at better rates than most wireless carriers. And it's upfront about what you pay.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

In Loving Memory of

EDWARD REYES MENDIO

Born to Life on December 28, 1953 Eddie was called by his Creator on March 16, 2009

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father: Mariano Castro Mendiola Sister: Margarita Reyes Mendiola **Brother:** Miguel Santos Niece: Janice Mendiola Reyes Baptismal Godfather: Joaquin Guerrero Confirmation Godfather: Gabriel Borja

Grand-Parents: Jesus M. Mendiola Ana Castro Mendiola Manuel DLG. Reyes Dolores Flores Reyes Temengil Bechab

He will be missed and his memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Mimi (Ivy) Almario Mendiola Mother: Susana Flores Reyes-Mendiola Baptismal Godmother: Ísabel Pangelinan

Children: William L. Mendiola, Naomi Puanani A. Mendiola, Patrick John Lindsey **Rear Daughter:** Kanoelehua Pumehana Elua Zelda Awaa

Sibling & Spouse

Calistro R./ Patricia Mendiola & Children torentina M./ Juan Reyes & Chilaren Richard R./ Glenda Mendiola & Children Francisco R./ Annie Mendiola & Children Margarita M./ Antonio Mendiola & Children

Father In-Law: Leonardo Almario, Sr.

Brothers/Sister In-Law & Spouse Mary Ann Almario Leonardo Almario Jr. & Children Marivic Almario Bartucci & Children Chloie Alamario & Children

Bertha M./ Joseph Palacios & Children Mariano R./ Bobbie Mendiola & Children Christina M./ Jose Babauta & Children

Mother In-Law: Elizabeth Almario

Nielo Almario & Children Mary Grace Almario Nebarte & Children Marites Almario Ray John Almario

Special Auntie In-Law: Teresita Almario

He is laso survived by his numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Nightly Mass is being offered at 6:00pm followed by the Holy Rosary at San Antonio Church. Christian Burial service will be announced at a later date.

> Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated. Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

From Ivy Mendiola, Children & Family

TECH BYTES

By ROB PEGORARO (C) 2009, THE WASHINGTON POST

A long computer-troubleshooting conversation with a friend over the weekend revealed one easy way for him to free up some disk space on his Mac: uninstall his copy of AOL's software. Ever since AOL began allowing users to receive and send e-mail with any standard program (see about. aol.com/faq/openmailaccess for instructions on how to do that), then began making its content available to everybody on the Web, there's been little reason to keep the company's aging, inefficient, poorly maintained software around.

What about e-mail and Web favorites you've saved in AOL? Mac users should download the free AOL Service Assistant (daol.aol.com/software/mac). which will automatically copy those important settings into Apple's iChat, Mail and Safari programs. In Windows, try the \$25 shareware program ePreserver (a free trial download at connectedsw.com), which can do the same with a few different Window Internet programs.

I've used this space before to recommend setting up a separate e-mail account for online shopping and banking—it's a good way to lower the odds of your regular home e-mail address landing on too many mailing lists, both legitimate and illegitimate. But for people with long-established e-mail addresses that already get more than their fair share of spam, moving commercial correspondence to a separate account can also lower their odds of being fooled by a phishing scam. That's because once you complete that move, you can safely ignore any emails sent to your home account that purport to be from your bank, credit-card issuer or online bookstore instead of figuring out which ones are for real and which ones came

from con artists impersonating those institutions.

If you've got friends or familv members who regularly call for help with their computer, do this the next time you visit their homes: Take a screen shot of their desktop.

You can use that picture to give them precise directions to a particular program. For example, you can say "third icon from the top on the right of the screen" instead of making your friend read through a long list of file names. (They will need to refrain from moving things around on the desktop, which most beginners don't seem to do, anyway.) To do a screen grab in Windows, hit the Print Screen button, open the Paint program and hit the Ctrl and P keys, then save the image to a flash drive. On a Mac, hit the Shift, Command and 3 keys, then copy the "Picture 1" file that will appear on the desktop to a flash drive.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 **27**

Life & Style

Natasha Richardson dies after fall on ski slope

Natasha Richardson, a gifted DuBois) and confined (the conand precocious heiress to acting royalty whose career highlights included the film "Patty Hearst" and a Tony-winning performance in a stage revival of "Cabaret," died Wednesday at age 45 after suffering a head injury during a beginners' ski lesson.

Alan Nierob, the Los Angelesbased publicist for Richardson's husband Liam Neeson, confirmed her death in a written statement.

"Liam Neeson, his sons (Micheal, 13, and 12-year-old Daniel), and the entire family are shocked and devastated by the tragic death of their beloved Natasha," the statement said.

"They are profoundly grateful for the support, love and prayers of everyone, and ask for privacy during this very difficult time."

The statement did not give details on the cause of death for Richardson, who suffered a head injury and fell on a beginner's trail during a private ski lesson at the luxury Mont Tremblant ski resort in Ouebec. Seemingly fine after the fall, about an hour later she complained that she didn't feel well.

She was hospitalized Tuesday in Montreal and later flown to a hospital in New York, where family members had been seen coming and going.

Vanessa Redgrave, Richardson's mother, arrived in a car with darkened windows and was taken through a garage when she arrived at the Lenox Hill Hospital on Manhattan's Upper East Side about 5 p.m. Wednesday. An hour earlier, Richardson's sister, Joely, arrived alone and was swarmed by the media as she entered through the back of the hospital.

It was a sudden and horrifying loss for her family and friends. for the film and theater communities, for her many fans and for both her native and adoptive countries. Descended from at least three generations of actors, Richardson was a proper Londoner who came to love the noise of New York, an elegant blonde with large, lively eyes, a bright smile and a hearty laugh.

If she never quite attained the acting heights of her Academy Award-winning mother, she still had enjoyed a long and worthy career. As an actress, Richardson was equally adept at passion and restraint, able to portray besieged women both confessional (Tennessee Williams' Blanche

cubine in the futuristic horror of "The Handmaid's Tale").

Like other family members, she divided her time between stage and screen. On Broadway, she won a Tony for her performance as Sally Bowles in a 1998 revival of "Cabaret." She also appeared in New York in a production of Patrick Marber's "Closer" (1999) as well as 2005 revival of Tennessee Williams' "A Streetcar Named Desire," in which she played Blanche opposite John C. Reilly's Stanley Kowalski.

She met Neeson when they made their Broadway debuts in 1993, co-starring in "Anna Chrisrole; she feels her way into it, and she fills it," wrote The New Yorker's Pauline Kael. "We feel how alone and paralyzed Patty is—she retreats into being a hidden observer."

Richardson was directed again by Schrader in a 1990 adaptation of Ian McEwan's "The Comfort of Strangers" and, also in 1990, starred in the screen version of Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale."

She later co-starred with Neeson in "Nell," with Mia Farrow in "Widow's Peak" and with a pre-teen Lindsay Lohan in a remake of "The Parent Trap." More recent movies, none of them

> widely seen, included "Wild Child," "Evening" and "Asylum."

She was born in London in 1963, the performing gene inherited not just from her parents (Vanessa Redgrave and director Tony Richardson), but from her maternal grandparents (Michael Redgrave and Rachel Kempson), an aunt (Lynn Redgrave) and an uncle (Corin Redgrave). Her younger sister, Joely Richardson, also joined the family business.

Friends and family members remembered Natasha as an unusually poised child, perhaps forced to grow up early when her father left her mother in the late '60s for Jeanne Moreau. (Tony Richardson died in 1991).

Interviewed by The Associated Press in 2001, Natasha Richardson said she related well to her family if only because, "We've all been through it in one way or another and so we've had to be strong. Also we embrace life. We are not cynical about life."

Richardson always planned to act, apart from one brief childhood moment when she wanted to be a flight attendant—"wonderful irony now since I hate to fly and have to take a pill in order to get on a plane. I'm so terrified."

Her screen debut came at age 4 when she appeared as a flower girl in "The Charge of the Light Brigade," directed by her father, whose movies included "Tom Jones" and "The Entertainer." The show business wand had already tapped her the year before, when she saw her mother in the 1967 film version of the Broadway show "Camelot."

"She was so beautiful. I still look at that movie and I can't believe it. It still makes me cry, the beauty of it. I could go on and on—in that white fur hooded thing, when she comes through

the forest for the first time. You've never seen anything so beautiful!" Richardson said.

She studied at London's Central School of Speech and Drama and was an experienced stage actress by her early 20s, appearing in "On the Razzle," "Charley's Aunt" and "The Seagull," for which the London Drama Critics awarded her most promising newcomer.

Although she never shared her mother's fiercely expressed political views, they were close professionally and acted together, most recently on Broadway to play the roles of mother and daughter in a one-night benefit Music," the Stephen Sondheim-Hugh Wheeler musical.

Before meeting up with Neeson (who called her "Tash") Richardson was married to theater and producer Robert Fox, whose credits include the 1985 staging of "The Seagull" in which his future wife appeared.

She sometimes remarked on the differences between her and her second husband—she from a theatrical dynasty and he from a working-class background in Northern Ireland.

"He's more laid back, happy to see what happens, whereas I'm a doer and I plan ahead,"

concert version of "A Little Night Richardson told The Independent on Sunday newspaper in 2003. "The differences sometimes get in the way but they can be the very things that feed a marriage, too."

> She once said that Neeson's serious injury in a 2000 motorcycle accident—he suffered a crushed pelvis after colliding with a deer in upstate New York—had made her really appreciate life.

"I wake up every morning feeling lucky—which is driven by fear, no doubt, since I know it could all go away," she told The Daily Telegraph newspaper in 2003. (AP)



In this Dec. 4, 2007 file photo, actress Natasha Richardson attends a private dinner hosted by Domenico Dolce & Stefano Gabbana to celebrate the opening of the Dolce & Gabbana Madison Avenue flagship boutique in New York.

> tie," Eugene O'Neill's drama about a former prostitute and the sailor who falls in love with her.

"The astonishing Natasha Richardson ... gives what may prove to be the performance of the season as Anna, turning a heroine who has long been portrayed (and reviled) as a whore with a heart of gold into a tough, ruthlessly unsentimental apostle of O'Neill's tragic understanding of life," The New York Times critic Frank Rich wrote. "Miss Richardson, seeming more like a youthful incarnation of her mother, Vanessa Redgrave, than she has before, is riveting from her first entrance through a saloon doorway's ethereal shaft of golden light."

Her most notable film roles came earlier in her career. Richardson played the title character in Paul Schrader's "Patty Hearst," a 1988 biopic about the kidnapped heiress for which the actress became so immersed that even between scenes she wore a blindfold, the better to identify with her real-life counterpart.

"Natasha Richardson ... has been handed a big unwritten

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Knowing

Friday Saturday 4:10 7:10 9:30 1:15 4:10 7:10 9:30 Mon and Tues

Nicolas Cage, Rose Byrne Action, Thriller • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

In 1958, as part of the dedication ceremony for a new elementary school, a group of students is asked to draw pictures to be stored in a time capsule. But one mysterious girl fills her sheet of paper with rows of apparently random numbers instead. Fifty years later, a new generation of students examines the capsule's contents and the girl's cryptic message ends up in the hands of young Caleb Koestler.

When I Met You

Friday Saturday 4:25 7:20 9:50 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:50 1:30 4:25 Mon and Tues 4.25 7.20

KC Concepcion, Richard Gutierrez Romance, Drama • Rated NR

Synopsis

lenny, a small promodizer,, hitches aa ride on a seaplane with struggling pilot, Benjie, to attend a wedding in Palawan...Jenny's boyfriend Albert and Benjie's fiancée, Tracy, are both friends with the bride and the two thought it would be great for their respective partners, Jenny and Benjie, to join them in Palawan. On the way to the wedding, Benjie and Jenny find themselves no getting along.

For years, stories have circulated about a secret place in the middle of

the Nevada desert, known for unexplained phenomena and strange sightings. It is called Witch Mountain, and when a Las Vegas cab driver

finds two teens with supernatural powers in his cab, he suddenly finds

Race To Witch Mountain

4:15 7:30 9:40 1:10 4:15 7:30 9:40 Friday Saturday 4:15 7:30

Mon and Tues Dwayne Johnson, Ciarán Hinds Action, Adventure • Rated PG

The Last House On The Left



4:30 7:15 9:55 Friday Saturday Sunday 1:25 4:30 7:15

Mon and Tues 4:30 Garret Dillahunt, Rhys Corio Horror • Rated R

Watchmen

4:00 7:05 10:15 Friday 1:00 4:00 7:05 1:00 4:00 7:05 Saturday 10:15 Sunday Mon and Tues 4:00 7:05

Malin Akerman, Billy Crudup Action, Adventure • Rated R

Slumdog Millionaire

Friday Saturday 4:20 7:00 9:45 1:05 4:20 7:00 9:45 Sunday 1:05 4:20 7:00 Mon and Tues 4:20 7:00

Dev Patel, Anil Kapoor Comedy, Drama • Rated R



The Uninvited

4:05 7:25 9:35 Friday 1:20 4:05 7:25 9:35 1:20 4:05 7:25 Saturday Sunday Mon and Tues 4:05 7:25

Elizabeth Banks, David Strathairn Horror, Remake • Rated PG 13

■ NO PASSES
■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

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28 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 L I F E & S T Y L E SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Man sets sail after dream as wife watches from shore

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Mike," and I have been married for 18 years, but for the last few we have been growing apart. Mike has recently expressed a desire to quit work and sail around the world. He bought an expensive sailboat, took lessons, and is teaching our kids to sail. I tried it, but I'm afraid of the water. I have, however, been supportive of my husband's dream.



I knew Mike was looking for a "crew" for the boat because he

couldn't sail with just the kids. Today he told me he has found someone. This crew consists of a married woman and her two kids. Mike invited her to crew after she first asked her husband. He did not ask ME first. He simply announced he had found a competent sailor.

I expressed vehemently that I am against this. I have never met the woman or her kids, and I'm hurt that I wasn't consulted. Mike says he is hurt because I "don't trust him."

By the way, the sailboat is only 37 feet long, and they're planning their first two-week trip this fall. What do you think?

LANDLOCKED IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

DEAR LANDLOCKED: I think you should start taking sailing lessons immediately. For the sake of your marriage, I advise you to remember that YOU are first mate, so haul anchor and get moving. If you think you and Mike are drifting apart now, it will be nothing compared to when he starts living his dream and sets sail without you.

DEAR ABBY: My mother and I attended the funeral of my great-uncle "John." Afterward a reception luncheon was held for everyone who attended. The general atmosphere was like a family reunion, but under unfortunate circumstances.

Because it happened to be my cousin's 24th birthday, all of my aunts, uncles and cousins decided to sing "Happy Birthday" to her. I did not join in and later said something about it to my mother, who assured me that no one was being rude.

Abby, was it inappropriate to publicly celebrate the birth of one person while mourning the death of another?

REFRAINED FROM THE CHORUS

DEAR REFRAINED: Some extended family get together only at weddings and funerals—and you stated that the general atmosphere was like a "family reunion." If your greatuncle had been ill, it's possible that the family accepted that his death was a kind of release.

Funerals are for the living. Obviously the majority of your relatives wanted your cousin's birthday not to be forgotten. I respect that—and so should you.

. . . .

DEAR ABBY: It disgusts me to see dog owners take their dogs out for a walk on a leash for the sole purpose of letting them dirty someone else's lawn. To add insult to injury, my newspaper boy sometimes throws our paper on top of a heap of fresh delivery of these "jewels." This has continued even after my posting signs asking people not to walk their dogs on my property.

Is it too much to expect folks to be considerate of their neighbors and clean up after their pets? I'm sure I'm not alone with this annoying experience.

DISGUSTED IN HOUSTON

DEAR DISGUSTED: You're not alone. The 11th Commandment should read: "It is the 'doo-ty' of conscientious pet owners to pick up after their dogs."

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

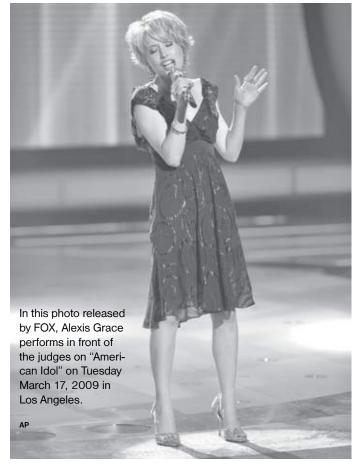
Another 'American Idol' contestant booted

LOS ANGELES (AP)—There was no saving Alexis Grace on "American Idol."

The show's four judges unanimously decided not to keep the soulful 21-year-old single mother from Memphis, Tenn., from being eliminated on the Fox singing competition after she received the least number of viewer voters Wednesday. The panel first teased they might veto her dismissal, but after a final performance, Simon Cowell told her it wasn't good enough.

"I wish I could've done better," she said after her ouster. "But, you know, things happen for a reason."

Introduced last week, the judges now have a one-time-on-ly opportunity to save a singer from being eliminated until the top five finalists are selected. If the panel unanimously agrees, no contestants will be eliminated that week, but two crooners will be out the next week. As the judges deliberated her fate, Grace sang—her voice cracking—one last time.



"It was good, but it wasn't good enough," said Cowell. "Sorry. It's the end of the line I'm afraid."

Grace disappointed the judges on Tuesday's Grand Ole Oprythemed performance show with a subdued rendition of Dolly Parton's "Jolene." Kara Dio-Guardi told the pink-streaked crooner she "lost her edge." Joining Grace as the bottom three voter-getters this week were 16-year-old high school student Allison Iraheta and 27-year-old oil rig worker Michael Sarver. "I'm gonna cry like a frickin' baby," Sarver exclaimed after he learned he was safe.

The 11 finalists remaining in the competition are Sarver, Iraheta, Adam Lambert, Anoop Desai, Danny Gokey, Kris Allen, Lil Rounds, Matt Giraud, Megan Corkrey and Scott MacIntyre.

On next Wednesday's performance show, the top 10 finalists will perform Motown tunes. Then, on next Thursday's result show, another finalist will be sent packing—or possibly rescued.

Dreyfuss calls attention to neglected battlefields



Actor Richard Dreyfuss, center, waits to speak a at news conference with the Civil War Preservation Trust in Washington, on Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Oscar-winner Richard Dreyfuss visited the nation's capital on Wednesday to call attention to the most endangered Civil War battlefields.

The actor joined the Civil War Preservation Trust as the group released its annual report on 10 battlefields that it says are deteriorating due to neglect, land development and other threats.

At a news conference, Dreyfuss said his interest in preserving Civil War battlefields grew out of his love for history and the significance of the war.

"We are the consequences of that war and the more we know about our past, the better," said Dreyfuss, who won an Academy Award for "The Goodbye Girl" and also portrayed Vice President Dick Cheney in Oliver Stone's "W".

The Washington-based preservation group issues the "History Under Siege" report annually. The sites on this year's list include Gettysburg, Pa.; South Mountain and Monocacy in

Maryland; Cedar Creek, New Market Heights, and Wilderness in Virginia; Fort Gaines, Ala.; Port Gibson, Miss.; Sabine Pass, Texas; and Spring Hill, Tenn.

James Lighthizer, president of the preservation trust, said other Civil War battlefields also face deterioration but didn't make the list.

"They're all threatened by destruction, and with destruction a portion of our national memory is destroyed and that's a tragedy," Lighthizer said Wednesday.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

CBS renews 'Two and a Half Men,' 'Big Bang Theory'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—CBS says it's reached deals to keep the comedies "Two and a Half Men" and "The Big Bang Theory" on the air for several more seasons. "Two and a Half Men," TV's top-rated sitcom, has been renewed for three more years, through the 2011-12 season. "The Big Bang Theory," which has shown double-digit ratings growth, got a two-year pickup, through 2010-11, CBS and Warner Bros. Television announced Wednesday. "Two and a Half Men," which stars Charlie Sheen and Jon Cryer, is produced by Warner with Chuck Lorre Productions Inc. and the Tannenbaum Co. The show is in its sixth season. "The Big Bang Theory," starring Johnny Galecki, Jim Parsons and Kaley Cuoco, is in its second season and produced by Warner and Lorre Productions. The shows air Monday nights.

Heath Ledger-directed music video set for release

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Modest Mouse music video directed by the late Heath Ledger is set for release this year. A

spokeswoman for the band says Ledger directed an animated video for "King Rat," a track off the band's 2007 album, "We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank." Modest Mouse frontman Isaac Brock collaborated with Ledger on the video's concept, Lisa Markowitz says, adding that Brock "is supporting the completion of the video in honor of Heath's last piece of work as a director." The actor, who died last year at age 28, had previously directed a music video for one of Ben Harper's songs.

Jessica Lange hospitalized with broken collarbone

NEW YORK (AP)—Oscarwinning actress Jessica Lange has been hospitalized after a short fall from her steps at her home near Duluth, Minn. Lange's representative, Leslee Dart, says the 59-year-old actress bruised her ribs, broke her collarbone and received a small cut on her forehead. Dart says Lange, who was vacationing when she fell Tuesday, "will be completely fine and expects to be released from the hospital imminently. Lange co-stars with Drew Barrymore in the HBO film "Grey Gardens."

Stacy Keach recuperating after stroke

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A spokesman for Stacy Keach says actor was recovering after having a mild stroke. Publicist Dick Guttman said Wednesday the 67-year-old actor "experienced a very mild stroke with no impairment whatsoever of his motor or speech abilities. He remains today in a Los Angeles hospital for observation and routine precautionary procedures." No further details were provided. Keach had been starring as Richard Nixon in the Center Theater Group's production of "Frost/Nixon" at the Ahmanson Theatre. In a statement, Guttman said "the producers of 'Frost/Nixon' look forward to his speedy recovery and to his return to the show as soon as he is able."

'The Colbert Report' set for USO Persian Gulf tour

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Stephen Colbert is taking his Comedy Central show to the Persian Gulf. "The Colbert Report" will tape four shows performed for troops as part of a USO tour. Colbert, who announced the trip on Tuesday's show, said in a statement that he couldn't reveal

his exact overseas destination, adding, "the fact that I can't tell you where I'm going should tell you where I'm going." Dates and the location of Colbert's Persian Gulf visit were withheld for security reasons at the USO's request.

Zappa bust to find a home in quirky neighborhood

BALTIMORE (AP)—Baltimore's public art commission hopes to erect a bust of eccentric rocker Frank Zappa in a neighborhood known for its bohemian vibe. On Wednesday, the commission formally endorsed placing the bust in the quirky Fells Point community. The neighborhood is a major tourist draw known for its nightlife. Tracy Baskerville, a spokeswoman for Baltimore's Office of Promotion and the Arts, says the commission will settle on a final location after meetings with Fells Point leaders. But she says commissioners would like to place the bust near the harbor on Broadway, the street anchoring the neighborhood. The bust is a gift from Zappa fans in Lithuania and is a replica of one in Vilnius, Lithuania's capital. Zappa was born in Baltimore.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 **29** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

LOOK, HOBBES! DAD FIXED MY BEANIE!







By Bryan Basset

Garfield®





The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

By Jim Davis



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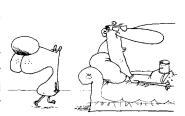
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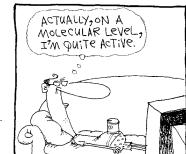












CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Christy Carlson Romano, 25; Chester Bennington, 33; Holly Hunter, 51; Spike Lee, 52

Happy Birthday: There is a lot you can do to develop a skill you have this year. Present what you have but do not give it away. You must barter to win the spot with which you will be most comfortable. Managing your life financially and emotionally will be your most important job this year. Your numbers are 1, 14, 18, 23, 29, 37, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You've got too much going on, so you are likely to become stressed out and make professional and personal mistakes. Don't make any changes to the way things are being done until you have a positive go-ahead from the people with whom you are associated. ••

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Consider taking a trip for both business and personal concerns. You stand to learn a lot on both fronts by spending time with people who can share thoughts, plans and inspiration. A new partnership will help balance your weaknesses. •••••

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can charm your way in and out of any situation but don't exaggerate or make promises you can't keep. Be straight about what you can and cannot do if you want to gain respect. Focus on the goal and follow through. •••

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's important that you send a message to everyone regarding the direction you choose to take. Consider a trip that combines research, business and some leisure time.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Communication will be the key to getting what you want. Set up meetings and show that you are willing to listen as well as contribute. Negotiate fairly so that everyone feels good about the deal. **QQQ**

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be convincing but, before you decide to push to have things your way, be sure you are doing the right thing. Put a little hard labor in at home and make your place more comfortable and user-friendly. Plan to go out and have some fun.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't give away all your secrets or someone will meddle in your affairs. Get involved in a creative activity or take a short trip to remind you of your past. It may be time to hook up with someone who always inspired you or made you laugh. 😂

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make plans that will surprise the one you love. Don't let your own uncertainties stop you from going the distance. A social gathering will give you the chance to show off something you've been working on. **0000**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep a low profile and work from home. Mixed feelings about someone you have been attached to in the past may cause you to question your current relationships. Don't lead anyone on or you will end

up in an awkward position.

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A romantic relationship may be on shaky ground if you haven't spent enough time together. Don't get involved in a risky venture just because you want to support someone's project. Just offer your advice.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't get involved with anyone who may lead you back to old habits. Confusion will set in if you aren't straight about the way you feel and your new direction. Talk to someone you trust. 🛇 🗘 🗘

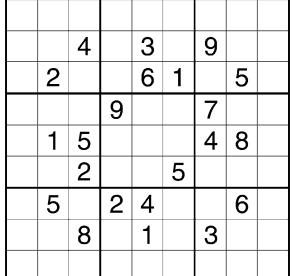
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be afraid to ask for help or delegate work. You have to show that you are a leader if you want to be treated like one. Talks will bring about a positive change.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and speak with unfiltered truth. You are a seeker of reform, justice and fair play. You are strong, practical and competitive.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Vactorday's CIIDOVII Answer

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WONDERWORD

HOW TO PIAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The

RICARDO MONTALBAN (1920-2009)

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© 2009 Universal Press Syndicate www.wonderword.com Across, Actor, Anita, Back, Balance, Battleground, Carmen, Dynasty, Fantasy Island, Flying, Georgiana, Hawaii Five-O, Honor, Jamaica, Jose, Khan, Knight, Latino, Laura, Lewis, Lobo Del Mar, Mark, Merino, Mexico, Nakamura, Nosotros, Pedro, Phil, Radio, Space Seed, Spinal, Spy Kids, Star Trek, Talent, Tallulah, Tattoo, Theater, Victor, Vocal, Young

Yesterday's Answer: Stradun

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've once proper from Wonderword. For a milled time, the book of so had to us \$4 each us. Survived only appealed to Universal Press Syndicate, Include \$3, postage for the first book order, \$1, pair for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Wainut SL, Kansas CH, Wo. 84109 or cell printinger, 1-800-94-4-800. Order online at upuzzles continued.

30 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

ADS (7DAYS)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$25
• 5-Liner	\$35
 3-Liner with picture 	\$45
 5-Liner with picture 	\$55

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

 Saipan Tribune: All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

DANILO T. AGUILAR, F0198 Attorney at Law P.O. Box 505301 First Floor, San Jose Court Bldg. Cor. Ghiyeghi St., Wischira Way Saipan, MP 96950 TELEPHONE: (670) 234-8801 FAX: (670) 234-1251

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIANSHIP OF TINA TRICIA LEPWACH, DIONISIO LEPWACH JR., AND STEVEN HAIN LEPWACH,

EPWACH, NO.
WACH JR., 109-0170-FCD
HAIN NOTICE
Minor Children, OF

FCD-GU

ACTION

OF HEARING

.....

Ву:

JULITA LEPWACH,

Please take notice that the above-stated matter shall come on for hearing on the 4th day of May, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Commonwealth Superior Court on the petition of Julita Lepwach for her appointment as Guardian Ad Litem for minor children Tricia Lebwach 09/30/2009) born on Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. Those wishing to be heard on this matter, please contact Danilo T. Aguilar, Esq. at the Law Office of Danilo T. Aguilar, or appear at the Commonwealth Court at the above-stated date and time.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2009.

/s/ Clerk of Court

House for Rent

4 Bedroom, 3 Bathroom House for Rent. Centrally located in Garapan, fenced yard, equipped with water reserve tank, split type air-conditioners in every room. Nice and Friendly Neighborhood.

NMHC Applicants Welcome!

Available first week of May. Please call 484-0770 for more info.

Making a website for you*

If you need to create a website, please call Pacific Weekly Chinese newspaper office at 285–4469 or email us: pacificweeklu@hotmail.com

English/Chinese/Japanese/ Korean Language are available.

The price is \$300 up.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in this section

Make it a daily habit!

www.saipantribune.com

FOR SALE

Sale: 1 -bedroom, build-in 20ft container, wall to wall carpet-\$1,000.00, Store equipment, shelves, coolers, freezers, counter, all for-\$1,500.00 Contact: 286-7653

MUSICAL

4-HEADED FROZEN T-SHIRT CONTEST: Every Thursday Nite, starting 3/26/09. Begin: 10pm, Prizes: USSP Bar Tabs. Call: 233-1984, More info.

AUTOMOTIVE

2000 Nissan Sentra, only 60,000 miles. Good condition, aircon, excellent interior, good gas mileage. \$3,500 OBO. Cash only. 322-4663.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Spacious Executive House for rent, Ahgaga Rd. Papago, Safe quiet area, 4000sq ft, 5BR, 3 ½ BTH, 3 stories, kitchen/living rm, laundry room, 2 covered balconies, panoramic ocean view, full concrete, landscaped, yard maint. included, 3000 gal. water tnk, negotiable, see to appreciate, on site landlord. Call 483-1933 or 256-0132

Apartment room for rent. 2 bedroom \$210. Located in Koblerville. Contact # 288-0728. Yoon Won Suck.

2-Bedroom House-Capitol Hill/Papago Drive. Fenced Yard-NMHC Applicants Welcome. Call: 285-2713/788-3787

WHATZIT Solution: Beauty is in the

Great Investment Opportunity in Tinian for Sale/Lease

5 Acre total Property with the following development on site 4 Unit Apartment Building (2ea Floor, 2 stories)

■ 2 bed/1 bath
 ■ Semi-Furnished, Major Appliances including Air Conditioning
 ■ Spacious Patio and Balcony
 ■ Power, Water, Cable and Telephone Ready
 ■ Great Ocean View Over-looking San Jose Village and Tinian Harbor
 Maintenance/Storage Shed also on Site.

For appointment to Visit, Please call 670-483-4597 or 670-235-5572

VEHICLE FOR SALE 1995 TOYOTA

CAMRY For more information, please contact

For more information, please contact the Bank of Guam Credit Department at telephone number (670) 236-2700 extension 3203, 3204, 3205 and 3206. Bids will be closed on

Friday, March 20, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers.

BANK OF GUAM

THE PEOPLE'S

DO D 500070 O : MD00050

P.O. Box 500678, Saipan MP 96950





COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.m

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the following:

One (1) Tractor Mower For the Tinian International Airport:

The equipment should include at a minimum:

1. STRUCTURE Protective Rollover Structure with open cab and mechanical seat suspension system

2. MOWER DECK

To include a fifteen foot (15') mower deck – mower deck to be winged type with three separate blades. Wings must be capable of being adjusted individually

3. ROTATING BEACON FAA approved colored rotating beacon mounted on roof

4. RADIO Mounted air-to-ground radio with headphones and microphone, mounted directly

under roof of cab or encased for weather proofing

COLOR Airport yellow in color
 ENGINE 80 horsepower or more

TRANSMISSION Standard
 FUEL Diesel
 CYLINDERS 4

10. CHASSIS

11. TIRES FRONT - 7.50-16 REAR – 16.9-30

4x2 2WD

12. MANUALS Technical and Parts Manuals for both tractor and mower must be provided

13. DELIVERY MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

A pre-proposal conference will be scheduled and held only upon request by proposers. However, attendance is not mandatory.

Proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, second floor of the arrival building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, March 20, 2009.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in the proposals if determined by the Ports Authority to be in its best interest. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. For additional information, please contact the Executive Director at 237-6500.

/s/ EFRAIN F. CAMACHO, P.E. Executive Director/Contracting Officer

Date: February 19, 2009



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Capital Improvement Program - Office of the Governor Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 Tel.: (670) 664-2402 • Fax.: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR PROVISION OF ENGINEERING SERVICES RFQ09-GOV-062

Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Conceptual Study

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Timothy P. Villagomez through the Office of Capital Improvement (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting Statements of Qualifications for the provision of civil engineering services for the conceptual examination of alternative methods to resolve the Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Issues.

The Commonwealth seeks engineering services to identify and analyze the various alternatives for control of pollutants being discharged onto the beaches from the Garapan Tourist District. Analysis should begin with a review of existing data and previous analysis and build upon this base. Specifically, previous work entitled "Field Investigations and Conceptual Alternative Development" by the engineering firm of Winzler & Kelly (November 2004) should be consulted. Additional documentation should be reviewed in order to quantify and qualify storm water in the Garapan Tourist District. Information gained from examination of existing data should then be used to identify and provide conceptual examination of alternatives for treatment and control of storm water in this area. This examination should identify estimated costs, permitting requirements, and treatment and control parameters. This information will be used by the Commonwealth to make decisions on selection of design. Specific details concerning project requirements are identified in the scope of work.

Interested parties may pick up the applicable scope of work and submittal requirements ("Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements") at the Office of Capital Improvement 1356 Mednilla Ave. Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4: 30 p.m. - Monday through Friday, except holidays). Submittal of all qualifications must precisely follow the submittal requirements identified in the Scope of Work and Submittal Requirements. A pre-proposal conference is schedule for this RFQ on March 18, 2009 at 9 a.m. in the Office of Procurement & Supply.

Selection of individuals for the provision of services shall be guided by the Commonwealth Department of Finance Division of Procurement & Supply, Procurement Regulations § 7070-30.3-305. Five copies of qualifications should be submitted to the Commonwealth Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 in a sealed envelope marked "Garapan Tourist District Storm Water Study Qualifications, RFQ09-GOV-062"

Qualifications must be received prior to noon of April 13, 2009 ("Closing Date") from individuals or firms residing within the Commonwealth. Individuals or firms residing outside the Commonwealth may receive an additional five (5) calendar days from the Closing Date for receipt of their qualifications, upon filing a notice of intent to submit qualifications ("Notice of Intent") with the Division of Procurement & Supply by 11:00 a.m. local time April 6, 2009. Notice of Intent may be transmitted in any of the following forms: direct delivery; transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515; or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com; however, the individual or firm transmitting a Notice of Intent bears all risk of proper functioning of equipment. For proposer's located outside the CNMI who have filed a Notice of Intent, all required documents must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Services or the official government postal service of the foreign country no later than the Closing Date and must be received no later than five calendar days after the Closing Date.

Statements of Qualifications will be evaluated and scored based on the following factors:

Proposed technical approach
 Prior experience in storm water design
 References
 Interview
 35%

Interviews will be conducted with the individuals who are determined to have the most appropriate qualifications for the needs of the Commonwealth.

This project is funded through grants from the United States Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) with local matching funds. Contract award is contingent upon approval from DOI.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the government. All submitted documents shall become the property of the Commonwealth



Mount Carmel School

Fost Office Box 500006, Sajpan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 234-6184/234-7188 • Fax No. (670) 235-4751 Email: mtcarmel@vzpacifica.net Web: http://www.mtcarmel-edu.net

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT School Year 2009-2010

Position	Need	Level	Salary	Qualifications	Closing
Classroom Teachers		VI-VII (01-05)	\$18,000 to \$20,966.93	Grad. from an accredited college or university w/B.A-Education or Related	04/20/09
Religion (7-8)/Theology III & IV	01				
High School Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Lab. Science)	01				
High School Math (Algebra II, Geometry, Trig/Pre-Calculus,	01				
Statistics, AP Calculus)					
Middle School Math/Science (8th grade Science, Pre-Algebra,	01				
Algebra I)					
Computer (1st to 12th, Yearbook, Digital Arts)	01				
P.E./Science (1st to 12th, 7th General Science)	01				
Elementary (2nd Grade)	01				
Elementary (4th Grade)	01				
Elementary (5th Grade)	01				
ice Principal for Curriculum & Instruction	01	VIII (01-04)	\$27,000 to \$29,503.63	Grad. from an accredited college or university w/B.A. Degree	04/20/09
ounselor I-II	01	VI-VII (01-05)	\$18,000 to \$20,866.93	Grad. from an accredited college or university w/ Bachelors degree.	04/20/09
art-time Classroom Teachers		Fixed Rate	\$11.51 per class per day	Grad. from an accredited college or university w/ Bachelors degree.	04/20/09
	01				
Japanese Teacher (Elem./Middle School/Jap. I & Jap. II)	01				
Theology Teacher (Theology I & II)	01				
Geometry Teacher	01				
Maintenance (Air Condition/Refrigeration)	01	I-III (01-05)	\$10,000 to	High School or Equivalent to Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent	04/03/09
			\$13,911.29	from an accredited college or university	
Building Maintenance	01	I-III (01-05)	\$10,000 to	High School or Equivalent to Bachelor's Degree or Equivalent	04/20/09
			\$13,911.29	from an accredited college or university	
Accountant	01	V (01-05)	\$17,000 to	Graduation from an accredited college or university with a	04/20/09
			\$19,133.65	Bachelor's Degree.	
School Principal	01	X (01-02)	\$32,000 to	Graduation from an accredited college or university with a	Until Filled
			\$32,960	Bachelor's Degree.	

Interested applicants may obtain a detailed job description with qualification requirements and application forms at Mount Carmel School Business Office from 08:00 am to 05:00 pm. Application forms can also be downloaded from the school's website at http://www.mtcarmel-edu.net. Required documents must be attached to completed application forms (1) official copy of diploma/degree or Official transcripts; (2) FBI clearance (only required after an offer for employment is made or an employment contract is signed; (3) police clearance (from jurisdiction or residence within the last 3 months); (4) resume, and teaching certificate. Completed applications and required documents may be submitted to Mount Carmel School, ATTN: Margaret C. DelaCruz, President, P.O. Box 500006, Saipan MP 96950. Inquiries can be made by calling 235-1251 or 235-3187. Mount Carmel School is an equal opportunity employer.

Dunn's error costly in US loss to Venezuela



MIAMI (AP)—Team USA manager Davey Johnson was right to have reservations about playing Adam Dunn at first base.

The desperation defensive deployment backfired Wednesday night in the World Baseball Classic when Dunn made a wild throw that led to four unearned runs, and Venezuela won Group 2 by beating the Americans 10-6 to conclude second-round play in Miami.

Both teams had already qualified for the semifinals this weekend in Los Angeles. Injury-plagued Team USA is expected to make several roster moves before then.

First baseman and cleanup hitter Kevin Youkilis was ruled out for the rest of the tournament Wednesday because of mild ankle and foot injuries. The only first baseman on the list of potential roster replacements—Derrek Lee of the Chicago Cubs—has been hampered by a sore thigh.

"We really don't have a first baseman to go to, and that creates a problem," Johnson said. "There are not really any good options."

Four other Americans have been sidelined by injuries since the start of round two, and there was concern in the U.S. dugout when third baseman David Wright fouled a ball off his foot in the first inning.

Wright cracked his left big toenail and hobbled through the rest of the game. X-rays were negative, and he said he's certain he'll be able to play in the semifinals.

"We've got to stop getting hurt," Wright said with a smile, referring to the wave of injuries. "A lot of this from what I see is stuff that, if it's in the middle the season, you can play through. But obviously the teams want to take every precautionary measure to make sure you're ready to go the first week in April."

The WBC semifinals begin Saturday, when Venezuela will play the second-seeded team from Group 1 at Dodger Stadium. The Americans play in the other semifinal Sunday.

"I can't wait," Wright said. "Making it to the final four has been our goal."



Venezuela's Max Ramirez, center, is congratulated by teammates Cesar Izturis, left, Bobby Abreu, second from right, and Mellvin Mora, right, after hitting a three-run home run and driving in Miguel Cabrera and Gerardo Parra, against the United States in the sixth inning of the World Baseball Classic in Miami, Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

The semifinalists from Group 1 in San Diego will be South Korea and the winner of Wednesday night's game between Cuba and Japan.

The Americans qualified for the semifinals for the first time by scoring three runs in the ninth inning Tuesday night to beat Puerto Rico 6-5, but they failed to come up with much of an encore.

"After Tuesday night, anything was going to be a letdown," left fielder Mark DeRosa said. "That was one of the great moments in a lot of guys' careers."

The bid for another comeback fell short after Venezuela scored six runs in the second inning with the help of Dunn's

error. Johnson would prefer to keep Dunn in the outfield, but with Youkilis out, there was no better option at first base.

With runners at the corners in the second inning, Dunn charged a chopper and made a throw home that sailed 10 feet wide of the catcher. Before the inning ended, Henry Blanco hit a tworun double off Jeremy Guthrie (0-2), and Jose Lopez and Miguel Cabrera each doubled home a run.

Cabrera finished with three hits and two RBIs. Three pitchers shut out the Americans after they cut the margin to 7-6 in the sixth inning.

"This team is doing a lot of small

things to win games," Venezuelan manager Luis Sojo said. "There is a different star every single day."

Team USA's pitching staff looked spring-training rusty. Seven pitchers gave up 15 hits, including a three-run homer by Max Ramirez.

"Our pitchers are still behind," Johnson said. "That's my main concern right now."

Team USA had 12 hits, including a two-run homer by DeRosa, but stranded 11 runners.

The weather was as bad as the pitching. Rain delayed the start for more than an hour and fell during much of the game.

The conditions did little to quiet the crowd of 16,575, with Venezuela fans again chanting, pounding drums and

booing Magglio Ordonez. Many Venezuelans dislike their left fielder because he supports the country's president, Hugo Chavez.

Ordonez turned the jeers to cheers when he singled during the second-inning rally. He finished 1-for-4, hiking his average in the tournament to .167 (4-for-24).

Guthrie lasted only 1 2-3 innings and gave up seven hits, including three doubles. He left trailing 6-1, but only two of the runs were earned.

Venezuela starter Armando Galarraga (1-0) allowed eight hits and three runs, two earned, in 3 1-3 innings.

Team USA fell to 1-2 against Venezuela. The teams could meet again for the championship Monday.

Astros' Aaron Boone to have open heart surgery



KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP)—Aaron Boone

of the Houston Astros will have open heart surgery to replace an aortic valve. Boone made the announcement Wednesday, saying he has known about his heart condition since college but tests after his routine physical determined he needed surgery. It is not an emergency, but doctors indicated the procedure was needed.

He said doctors told him he could play baseball when he recovers, but he's not sure whether he will.

An emotional Boone delivered the news flanked by general manager Ed Wade and manager Cecil Cooper and in front of a somber room filled with teammates and Astros officials.

"It definitely hits home, but I'm doing well with it," Boone said. "I feel like I'm fairly educated on it now. I have a strong faith and a great family and friends and teammates. I really am doing well and I'm ready to tackle this thing and get it behind me and get on with life."

Wade said a local doctor who did the team physicals and team physician Dr. Jim Muntz worked together to conduct

tests on Boone because they knew of his condition.

"Unfortunately the test results came out indicating there was an acceleration of the condition that Aaron has been dealing with for a number of years," Wade said.

He has a bicuspid aortic valve, a congenital defect where the valve has only two cusps to manage the flow of blood through the heart, as opposed to the normal three. The surgery has not been scheduled, but Boone expects to set a date for the procedure later this week.

Cooper rubbed Boone's back as he expressed his concern for the player.

"As a baseball family we're here to support Aaron, as you can see by all the teammates and front office personnel we have here," Cooper said. "And anything he needs we're going to be there to help him out."

Boone said he feels fine, but that he's never had symptoms of the problem.

The third baseman signed with the Astros in the offseason after spending last season with the Washington Nationals. Now, the 36-year-old isn't sure if he'll ever play for Houston, or any

other team, again.

"I think about it a little bit, but at the end of the thought or the end of the day it's about getting this and we'll see where I am a month from now, two months from now, three months from now," he said.

He'll make decisions on his future after he recovers and can research and talk with athletes who have returned to play after heart surgery. He mentioned getting in touch with Golden State's Ronny Turiaf, who had a similar procedure and currently plays in the NBA.

If he wants to talk to someone closer, he can look across the clubhouse to reliever Doug Brocail. Brocail did not have open heart surgery, but underwent two angioplasties on his heart in 2006 during which four stents were installed.

"You want the guy here, but there's life after baseball," Brocail said. "(I told him) Get this done for you and your kids and if you play baseball again, so be it. If you don't, get it fixed so you can have a normal, healthy life."

Boone has also played for Cincinnati, the New York Yankees, Cleveland and Florida in his 12-year career.

Cardinals' Warner undergoes hip surgery



TEMPE, Ariz. (AP)— Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner has undergone arthroscopic surgery on his left hip.

The team said that the operation to repair a torn labrum and "clean up some loose fragments" was performed Tuesday by Dr. Marc Philippon at the Steadman Hawkins Clinic in Vail, Colo.

Philippon, who operated on Yankees slugger Alex Rodriguez's hip last week, said the surgery went well and Warner's range of motion with the hip immediately improved.

"Everything went well and I'm feeling great," Warner said in a statement released by the team Wednesday. "I began rehab on a stationary bike just a few hours after surgery and then a couple of more times today."

Warner played with the injury last season, starting all 20 games in the Cardinals' run to the Super Bowl.

"Although I could have continued to play with it, I felt this was the best for short term success on the field as well as long term comfort off the field," he said. "I am ready to go back to work and back to normal so we can build on what we accomplished last season."

Warner is expected to sit out the team's mini-camp May 1-3 but hopes to be ready for voluntary team work-outs that begin May 19.

"We talked right after the season and we all agreed that this procedure was the best option and this would be a good time," coach Ken Whisenhunt said. "I talked to Kurt today and he felt good. I don't think we're going to push him to do much at mini-camp and see the OTAs (voluntary workouts) as a more realistic target."

The surgery comes two weeks after the 37-year-old quarterback signed a two-year, \$23 million contract - with a \$15 million signing bonus—to stay with the Cardinals.

Pierce scores 36 as Celtics beat Wade-less Heat



(AP)—Paul Pierce scored 36 points and the Boston Celtics clinched the Atlantic Division title with a 112-108 victory Wednesday night against the Miami Heat, who played without NBA scoring-leader Dwyane Wade.

Wade missed his first game of the season because of a right hip flexor.

But Boston was without Kevin Garnett for the 13th straight game with a strained right knee and Ray Allen, who hyperextended his elbow Tuesday night in a loss at Chicago.

Rajon Rondo had 27 for Boston. Miami, in its third overtime game in its last five, was led by Michael Beasley with 21 points and Mario Chalmers with 19.

Wade's injury ended his career-long streak off 66 straight games played. The Heat did not say how long he would be sidelined, and he was not ruled out of games Friday night at New Jersey and Sunday against Detroit.

Suns 126, 76ers 116

At Phoenix, Jason Richardson scored 23 of his 25 points in the second half, and Shaquille O'Neal had 26 points and 11 rebounds in Phoenix's third straight victory.

Steve Nash added 24 points and 10 assists to help the Suns move within four games of idle Dallas for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Andre Miller had 23 points and eight assists, and Thaddeus Young also had 23 points for Philadelphia. The loss ended the 76ers' winning streak at four games.

Rockets 106, Pistons 101, 2 OT

At Houston, Yao Ming scored 31 points and Ron Artest added 26 to lead Houston past undermanned Detroit.

Aaron Brooks scored seven of his 14 points in the extra periods, helping the Rockets stay in third place in the Western Conference standings.

Arron Afflalo scored 24 points, Rodney Stuckey added 21 points with 10 assists and Antonio McDyess grabbed 20 rebounds for the Pistons, who played without Richard Hamilton (groin), Allen Iverson (back) and Rasheed Wallace (calf strain).

Hornets 94, **Timberwolves 93**

At New Orleans, Chris Paul capped a 26point, 10-assist, five-steal performance for New Orleans by setting up David West's dunk with 12.6 seconds left.

Minnesota's Randy Foye missed a 17-foot jumper as time expired, allowing New Orleans to escape with the victory. But it was an officials' review of a long-range shot Foye made earlier in the fourth quarter that also affected the outcome. The shot was initially ruled a 3, but the Wolves had a point taken off the board after a replay review during a timeout a few minutes later.

Kevin Love had 23 points and 11 rebounds for Minnesota.

Bulls 103, Thunder 96

At Oklahoma City, Derrick Rose scored 20 of his 25 points and didn't miss a shot in the second half as Chicago snapped a seven-game road losing streak.

In a matchup of two of the NBA's top rookie point guards, Rose was unstoppable in the second half. The No. 1 pick in last year's draft hit all 10 of his shots.

Russell Westbrook, the fourth overall pick in the draft, had 15 points and pulled the Thunder within 99-96 by driving past Rose for a layup in the final minute before Oklahoma City's rally fell short.

Kevin Durant led Oklahoma City with 28 points.

Magic 106, Bucks 80

At Milwaukee, Dwight Howard had 28 points and came up three assists shy of a triple double, powering Orlando past Milwaukee.

Howard finished with 12 rebounds and seven assists, while Hedo Turkoglu added 14 points and 10 rebounds for Orlando. The Magic rebounded from a loss to Cleveland on Tuesday night to win for the eighth time in their last 10 games.

Charlie Villanueva had 17 points for the Bucks.

Nets 115, Knicks 89

At New York, Vince Carter scored 29 points, Brook Lopez had 23 to help New Jersey salvage the final game of an otherwise miserable five-game trip.

The Nets lost the first four games of the trip out West, losing All-Star point guard Devin Harris to a sprained left shoulder along the way. Al Harrington scored 21 points, and Nate Robinson had 18 points for New York.

Trail Blazers 95. Pacers 85

At Indianapolis, Brandon Roy scored 20 points, and Portland center Greg Oden won his first pro game in his hometown.



Boston Celtics' Paul Pierce (34) drives to the hoop against Miami Heat center Jermaine O'Neal (7) during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Boston Wednesday, March 18, 2009.

Oden, the top pick in the 2007 draft. returned to Portland's lineup after missing more than a month because of a bone chip in his left knee. He finished with four points and seven rebounds in 12 minutes.

Danny Granger had 35 points and 10 rebounds in his first start for Indiana since

637-RENT

Behind Johndel's Supermarket

Reserved Parking in Rear

leaving a game Feb. 18 against Charlotte because of a right foot injury.

Bobcats 104, Kings 88

At Charlotte, N.C., Gerald Wallace had 25 points and 12 rebounds and Charlotte beat short-handed Sacramento to keep the Kings winless against the Eastern Conference.

Emeka Okafor added 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Bobcats, who pulled away in the fourth quarter as the Kings played without top scorer Kevin Martin (illness), Andres Nocioni (quadriceps) and then lost Rashad McCants (ankle) after he scored 30 points.

Beginning the night in the middle of a six-team logiam for the final playoff spot in the East, the Bobcats won their second straight while the NBA-worst Kings fell to 0-28 against the East.

Nuggets 111, Grizzlies

At Memphis, Tenn., Carmelo Anthony scored 35 points, including the go-ahead three-point play with 33.2 remaining, as Denver overcame a 17point second-half deficit.

The Nuggets snapped a six-game road losing streak. Chauncey Billups added 18 points and 12 assists for Denver.

Clippers 123, Wizards

At Los Angeles, Eric Gordon scored 15 of his 26 points in the third quarter, and Baron Davis tied a career high with 20 assists for Los Angeles.

Steve Novak had 21 points for the Clippers, and Davis added 11 points and eight rebounds. Antawn Jamison led Washington with 24 points.

234-RENT

Next to Subway



OBLIGATIONS!

More than 70 golfers expected for fundraiser tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



The Friends for Juan "Pan" T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho Fundraising

Golf Tournament will be held this Saturday at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Tournament director Ralph N. Yumul said they are expecting more than 70 golfers to participate in the event, which aims to raise funds for the Committee to Elect Juan "Pan" T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho.

Guerrero and Camacho are running for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, as

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

2009 Budweiser Inter-Gov-

ernment/Business Slow-pitch

Undefeated defending cham-

pion Department of Commu-

nity and Cultural Affairs led

the march of early qualifiers

with its 18-0 record. The other

teams were Docomo (15-4),

Beach Boys (14-3), Freedom

Eight teams this

week have al-

ready assured

spots in the play-

off round of the

n_rodriguez@saip REPORTER

Softball League.

independent candidates in this year's election.

"We are encouraging golfers in the CNMI to join this tournament, have fun, and meet their candidates. We prepared great prizes for winners in different flights," Yumul said.

This Saturday's fundraiser will have competitions in six divisions, namely the Championship Flight, A, B, C, D, and Ladies. Tournament format is double-peoria

The Championship Flight is for participants with 0 to 5 handicap, A is for 6 to 11, B is for 12 to 17, C is for 18-22, and D is for 23-and-above.

Yumul said they added the

8 teams to playoffs, 5 falls in Budweiser softball

Air (14-4), Joeten Motor Jets

(13-5), No Zone (13-5), Com-

monwealth Ports Authority

All eight teams can afford

to lose all of their remaining

games, but they still have to

win them anyway since their

standing after the regular season

would determine their ranking

DCCA, however, had been

assured of the No. 1 spot. Its last

game was scheduled last night

PIC (5-12) along with four

other teams, Customs (4-14),

Mayor's Office (4-13), Law &

against Pacific Islands Club.

(12-4), and Legislature (11-7).



Former Superior Court presiding judge Ed Manibusan tees off in one of the local golf tournaments last year. CNMI parbusters will head to the Kingfisher Golf Links this Saturday for the Juan "Pan" T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho Fundraising Golf Tournament.

special D Flight, as they want to encourage new golfers to join the tournament.

Order (3-14), and Hopwood

(0-17), are already out of play-

off contention even if they win

Seven teams still have the

chance to secure the last two seats

and that include POI Aviation

(8-8), P&S (8-8), CUC (7-10),

CRM/DEQ (7-11), DLNR (6-12),

From the looks of it. POI and

P&S need to win two of their last

three games to complete the cast

and eliminate the rest of the field.

games by beating P&S, 13-9, on

Monday aided by two homer-

uns from Jerry Ayuyu and Bruce

No Zone won its last two

PSS (6-11), and CHC (5-11).

all their remaining games.

The top winner in each flight will receive cash prizes and other giveaways courtesy of vari-

Norita, who went 4-for-4 with

Earlier on March 13, No Zone

ousted PIC from the playoffs

with a 19-9 win as four of its

players rained homers, includ-

ing Ned Norita, Ayuyu, Manny

PIC forfeited its Wednesday

Also on Wednesday, POI

kept its hopes alive with a

14-8 triumph at the expense

of CRM/DEQ, which is on the

brink of elimination. It needs

to win its last two games to

Joeten Motor Jets scored an

easy 14-3 victory against the

eliminated Mayor's Office on

Sablan, and Bruce Norita.

game against CHC.

make the next round.

six RBI and a double.

ous sponsors of tournament.

A golfer who will make a hole-in-one shot are guaranteed to win a roundtrip ticket anywhere to Asia courtesy of MITA Travel. Hole-in-one prizes are at stake in the par-3 No. 6, 8, 12, and 15 holes.

Tee-time is at 11am, while check in is at 10am. The awards banquet will follow immediately after the tournament.

Interested participants can still register at the venue. Entrance fee is only \$75.

Expected to participate this Saturday's event are the golfers who joined the San Jose Church tourney last weekend, also at the Talofofo golf course.

Bae Yong Man won the low gross division, while Jess Wabol

In the women's division, Fi-

Three Finance players hit

homers, Pauline Tudela in the

first, Julie Guerrero, and Emma

Results of the games

Wednesday night showed

CUC winning over CRM/

DEQ, 15-8, with Oscar Sablan

hitting three homeruns and

Docomo climbed to solo sec-

ond by crushing the league's fa-

vorite whipping team Hopwood,

14-4, and PSS went home early

after Customs forfeited its game

Ol'Aces slid to the No. 3 spot,

while IT&E settled for fourth,

for the second time.

Ton Guerrero making one.

Tenorio, both in the fifth.

nance needed only five innings

to post a 15-5 win over CHC.

March 13

and Ned Norita placed second and third, respectively. Rene Batallones prevailed in the low net category, while Kim Yang topped the Ladies gross.

To register or for more information, contact Yumul at 285-7529.

NBA STANDINGS

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

51 18 .739 **–** 34 31 .523 15 x-Boston Philadelphia 29 39 .426 21 1/2 New York 28 39 .418 22 24 44 .353 26 1/2 Toronto

Central Division

54 13 .806 y-Cleveland 33 33 .500 20 1/2 32 37 .464 23 31 39 .443 24 1/2 Chicago Milwaukee 28 41 .406 27

Southeast Division

x-Orlando 50 18 .735 40 28 .588 10 Atlanta 36 31 .537 13 1/2 Miami 30 38 .441 20 Washington 16 52 .235 34

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division 45 22 .672 44 25 .638 2 Houston 42 25 .627 3 New Orleans 41 27 .603 4 1/2 Dallas 17 50 .254 28 Memphis

Northwest Division

44 25 .638 -Denver Portland 42 26 .618 1 1/2 20 48 .294 23 1/2 Utah Minnesota Oklahoma City 19 49 .279 24 1/2

Pacific Division

36 31 .537 17 24 43 .358 29 Phoenix Golden State Sacramento 14 54 .206 39 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Houston 106, Detroit 101, 2OT New Orleans 94, Minnesota 93 Chicago 103, Oklahoma City Orlando 106, Milwaukee 80 New Jersey 115, New York 89 Portland 95, Indiana 85 Charlotte 104, Sacramento 88 Denver 111, Memphis 109

By The Associated Press

10

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER CAGING

FINAL STANDINGS

CNMI Nationals

Ol'Aces

Docomo Runnin' Rebels

Diamond Auto Fixers

Quichocho Law Office

y-LA Lakers

Boston 112, Miami 108 Suns 126, 76ers 116

DIAMOND

From Page 36

Neither Muleta nor Pelisamen was called for a violation and the game resumed a few minutes later after both camps exchanged hi-fives, proving order was restored in the match.

Diamond led by 10 points, 76-66, when the game was stopped and it maintained the cushion after getting timely baskets from Badong Camacho, Bruce Berline, Elmer Esdrelon, and Muleta.

After Diamond took an 18-13 lead at the end of the first quarter, Ol'Aces played catch up most of the way.

in the playoffs.

Pelisamen was at the forefront of Ol'Aces' repeated comeback bids. His buzzerbeater in the third quarter cut the lead to five, 57-52.

Diamond contested the basket, but both referees said the last shot was counted. Later after the game, Mesa explained that they counted the basket even if the ball was still in the hands of Pelisamen when the buzzer sounded because the Ol'Aces gunner was airborne.

The disputed basket came after Junior Renguul threw a prayer with the clock winding down. The ball bounced off

the rim, but Pelisamen leaped for the offensive rebound and tossed the ball in.

Mesa explained that had Pelisamen been on the ground when he had the ball, the basket would've been nullified.

Diamond couldn't get its mind off the last play in the third quarter and committed an error at the start of the fourth quarter when Errol Peredo stepped on the left sideline.

But after that miscue, Peredo and Brendon Talania anchored Diamond's 10-0 run, turning a five-point lead to a 67-52 advantage with more than two minutes gone by in the fourth period.

Ol'Aces never recovered from thereon, as Diamond always found ways to widen the gap each time the former closed in.

Muleta top-scored for Diamond with 19 points, while Berline had a double-double with his 13 markers and 10 rebounds.

Pelisamen nailed 29 points, but was held to three points in the first nine minutes of the fourth quarter, as he was frustrated by the pesky defense of Diamond players.

Diamond finished the regular season with a 7-5 record, winning the tiebreak for the No. 2 spot in the playoffs against IT&E and Ol'Aces.

followed by Docomo, Quichocho Law Office, and the Runnin' Rebels. The CNMI Nationals led the league with their 9-3 record and are seeded first in the double-elimination playoffs. Diamond 82 - Muleta 19,

Berline 13, Talania 12, Camacho 10, Esdrelon 6, Fernandez 4, Joyner 4, Brostrom 4. Ol' Aces 74 – Pelisamen 29,

White 13, Renguul 9, Omar 6, Rangamar 5, Iginoef 4, Olaitiman 4, Tudela 4.

Scoring by quarters: 18-13, 38-31, 57-52, 82-78.

a professional manner." the 31-

"My goal in every basketball

game that I officiate in is always

to establish good teamwork,

communication, and support

with fellow referees. I must do

the best job I can for the players,

coaches, and fans in the spirit

and integrity of the game," said

White, adding if he works hard

enough, it will earn him a chance

yeard-old referee said.

BUDWEISER SML STANDINGS Oceania Zone and BANMI in

D-9ers Rock Steady Ford Rangers Tanapag Falcons Master Rangers Korean Phoenix Young Guns

BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS

18 15 DCCA 4 3 3 5 Docomo Beach Boys 14 13 Freedom Air Joeten Motor Jets No Zone Legislature 8 POI CUC 10 11 12 11 11 12 13 13 14 17 CRM/DEQ DLNR PSS CHC PIC Customs 4 3 0 Mayors Law & Order Hopwood Women 10 2 NMC Finance CUC 6

DCCA

petition in Bangkok will be very high.

"These female athletes are not only the best high school and junior national players. They will be the future basketball stars in NCAA, the WNBA, and other leagues in the world. This tournament is one of the major events for thousands of recruiters," White added.

"This tournament will be huge. The only other tournaments bigger than this are the higher age group world championships, the Olympic Zone qualifiers, and the Olympics itself," he said.

The Bangkok tournament will feature teams from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Japan, Korea, Lithuania, Mali, China, Russia, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, and the U.S.

"At such as high level of competition, the type of officiating needed at the world championships will also be very high and

very professional. For instance, before the tournament begins, referees are required to arrive a few days early to attend a FIBA clinic," White said. He added that besides the ref-

erees, all FIBA commissioners and referee supervisors will be attending the clinic.

"I am really looking forward to working with 24 other referees selected to officiate in the world championships. As always, I will do my best to represent FIBA

Sakisat polished off the win by striking out Secharmidal, his

E.J. Tenorio went 3-for-4 and Bob Lizama had a 2-for-4 stint.

D-9ers coach Chel Castro said it was about time they come out

we lost to the Rangers," said Castro, explaining that some of his main men did not show up

in that game due to their commitment in the Budweiser Inter-Government/Business Slowpitch Softball League.

to officiate a medal game.

Castro also missed three of his regulars Wednesday night as Bansil could not make it due to his work schedule at Palms Resort, while two young reliables—Eric Tenorio and Chad Atalig—were trying out for the Kagman High School Team.

From Page 36

D-9ERS

From Page 36

tournament that I had attended in Europe. The tournament in Bangkok will showcase the world's outstanding and talented female basketball players. The tournament last summer was for boys in the FIBA Europe Zone and its for B players," White said.

White said the level of com-

of the sixth after Wally Emul

scored on a single by Jonathan

Tenorio and Bob Lizama on a

Rock Steady tried to keep its

hopes alive as Sakisat gave up

six hits, including two straight

triples and five runs in the bot-

triple by Jeff Tenorio.

tom eight, with two outs and the score went 8-7.

John Reyes scored on a single by Vince Sablan. Oliver Secharmidal and Manny Sablan then crossed home plate on a two RBI triple by Jerry Ayuyu followed by Ayuyu on another triple by J.P. Lizama, who made the final run of the night on an RBI single by Derron Flores.

by forcing Ed Manibusan to ground out.

In the top of eight, Rock Steady reliever Nick San Nicolas struck out E.J. Tenorio, while Jonathan Tenorio flied out to leftfield and Bob Lizama was retired anew on another strikeout.

In the ninth, Martin Pangelinan grounded out on a 4-3 play, John Flores flied out, and ninth strikeout in the game.

and pull out an important win. "We need to comeback after

Sakisat put an end to the rally

San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament

Low gross top winner Bae Yong Man, left, is congratulated by San Jose Church Parish priest Jesse Reyes during the awards ceremony for the San Jose Church Fundraising Golf Tournament Saturday at the



Ladies low gross winner Kim Yang receives the top prize.



From left, closest to the pin winner on hole No. 12 Ray Villagomes poses with awards ceremony host Jordon Kosam and San Jose Church Council president Manny Mangarero.



Low gross runner-up Jess Wabol looks at his shot in hole No. 18.



Jerry Ayuyu watches his bal roll through the No. 9 hole.



Ladies low gross runner-up Clara Chang, center, poses with San Jose Church Council president Manny Mangarero, right, and Fr



San Jose Church Parish priest Jesse Reyes thanks players for supporting the fundraiser.



Low gross third placer Ned Norita, right, receives his prize.



Gus Camacho eyes his target.



Tars Olopai, center, is all smiles after winning the closest to the pin contest in hole No. 6.



The Friends for Juan "Pan" T. Guerrero and Joseph N. Camacho Fundraising Golf Tournament will be held this Saturday at the Kingfisher Golf Links.



Dunn's error costly in US loss to Venezuela

Team USA manager Davey Johnson was right to have reservations about playing Adam Dunn at first base.



36 FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2009

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Diamond Auto Care outlasts Ol'Aces

iamond Auto Care survived an intense game, pulling off an 82-74 win over Ol'Aces at the conclusion of the regular season of the 2009 BANMI/Budweiser Basketball League Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

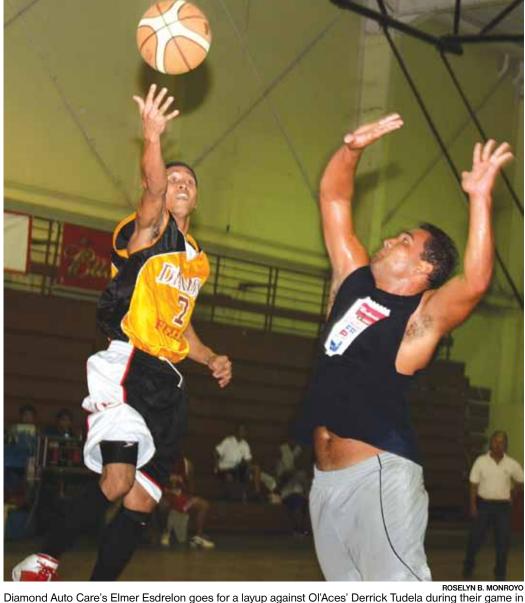


Diamond and Ol'Aces were fighting only for the second seeding in the playoffs, but the way their players banged bodies, exchanged words, and complained to referees on several occasions, it seemed as if both teams were fighting for

Referees Arnold Mesa and Manny Sitchon even had to halt the match in the last 3:25 of the fourth quarter to prevent an altercation between Diamond's Pando Muleta and Ol'Aces' Freddie Pelisamen from further escalating.

The ball was in play on the left sideline after a Diamond inbound play when Mesa caught Muleta and Pelisamen banging bodies on the opposite sideline.

See DIAMOND on Page 34



hite to officiate in FIBA World Championships

the Budweiser caging Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The CNMI's Gabriel White was selected to be part of the referees pool in the 2009 FIBA Women's U-19 World Championships, which

will be held in Bangkok, Thailand from July 23 to Aug. 2.

This be will White's second international tournament after going to Debrecen, Hungary last year to officiate



games in the FIBA Europe Under 20 B-Division Championships. He is qualified to referee games in FIBA World Championships after getting his FIBA International Referee

License mid last year.

Though it will not be his first time to officiate in world championships, White said the tournament in Bangkok will be a lot different from that of Hungary.

"This differs in many ways compared to the first basketball

See WHITE on Page 34

D-9ers stun Rock Steady, 8-7

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

late rally by Rock Steady and scored a thrilling 8-7 win in the 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major MAJOR LEAGUE League Wednesday night at the Francisco

"Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Coming to the game sans three of their key players, including league-leading batter Robert Bansil, the D-9ers eclipsed a 0-2 deficit with five runs in the top of the third inning to spark the victory and put a damper to Rock Steady's title retention bid.

Both teams are now holding 3-1 slates to create a three-way tie for the lead. Ford Rangers also sport 3-1 win-loss record, following their 13-0 win over the D-9ers last March 11

Lizama scored via two-RBI single by Ed Manibusan for The San Roque D-9ers foiled a a 2-0 lead for Rock Steady in the bottom of the first inning,

third baseman Bob Lizama singled and drove catcher E.J. Tenorio home and first baseman Jona-

than Tenorio. Lizama then reached home plate on pitcher Mel Sakisat's double with no out in the top of the third.

Sakisat also scored on another double by second baseman Ben Mesa, who capped that five-run spurt in the third on consecutive doubles by Pat Camacho.

The D-9ers added one more run by E.J. Tenorio on a single by Jonathan Tenorio for a 6-2 lead in the fourth and surged to a 8-2 lead in the top See D-9ERS on Page 34



Mel Sakisat of the San Roque D-9ers in action in the ninth inning of their 8-7 win against defending champion Rock Steady Wednesday night in the 2009 Budweiser Saipan Major League.

March on

hey picked the wrong month to celebrate Thanksgiving. It should be in March.

Of all the months of the year, none of them are better for sports fans than March.

March Madness is here, bay-bee!

The NCCA men's basketball tournament coined something no other month has been able to accomplish. There are good reasons why May Mania, Awesome August, February Fright, December Delirium, October Owned, July Jitters, January Jam, Jumping June, Nervous November, April Angst, and September Psycho have not caught on with the public like March Madness has.

Dementia makes sense to me. How else could we honestly believe that we know who will win this year when almost everybody every year loses? New brackets come out, contests pop up, and we completely ignore all of our past failures to try again, absurdly thinking we know something others do not, as if seeing a few games on television unlocked its mysteries but only to you and not others.

College basketball whets the hoopster's appetite and sets the table for the soon-to-come professional playoffs.

The quiet unfolding of baseball this month has been punctuated by the World Baseball Classic. The tranquility of spring training has been blown up with games that all of a sudden have meaning. And where else does Puerto Rico have a chance against the United States of America?

The Marianas Cup (beach volleyball) was the highest level of any sport played on the island all year. Phil Dalhausser is the only world's top ranked player to show his stuff on Saipan.

The Marianas Cup (soccer) pitted the CNMI men's and women's "football" teams against its nemesis Guam. I've already forgotten the scores.

The Marianas Kids Cup (beach volleyball) drew a record 97 players aged 10-15. One team, the Lamers, played 17 matches in one day. That's madness.

Youth baseball is thriving, as popular as ever. Palacios and Tan Ge Fields are bustling with people of all ages. Players are emerging as stars. Twelve-year-old lefty Jeremy Lizama looks like our

The island-wide men's basketball league crowns their champions this month. Like the NCAA field of 64, there is no clear favorite for the championship. All seven teams are capable of winning on any given night. But I am not aware of any betting contests. Nobody's

OFF THE BENCH

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2



got money here anyway.

Saipan's roads are training grounds for local triathletes preparing for next month's XTERRA and Tagaman.

The Saipan Swim Club annually holds its championship meet

There is more but I need to finish this column and fill out another bracket on the Internet.

But as good as March is for us fans, I celebrate on the last day when it is finally over. Why? Because it was too exciting for my heart? That I couldn't stomach the emotional ups and downs? 'Cuz my brain was fried? No. It's because that's my wife birthday.